A GUIDE TO NATIVE COMMUNITIES IN ALBERTA

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A GUIDE TO NATIVE COMMUNITIES IN ALBERTA

January, 1986

Preface

Dear reader:

When research on Native communities began, Native Affairs was encouraged by the quality of information resources available in private sector and government agencies. This material was both detailed and specific. However, no one source provided a concise overview of the resources, both human and material, in Native communities. In short, what was missing was a profile of communities on a human scale that described their quality of life and the challenges before community residents.

THE GUIDE TO NATIVE COMMUNITIES attempts to help fill this information gap. It is hoped the publication will be of use to Native communities and organizations, private sector interests such as the tourism and oil and gas industries and other businesses, government departments, as well as Alberta students and teachers.

The GUIDE's description of 83 Native communities will help the reader gain an insight into the lives of Native people in rural Alberta. They are community profiles with a heart. I hope you will find them helpful.

Yours truly,

Milt Pahl

Milt Pahl
Minister Responsible
for Native Affairs

Introduction

Since its inception in 1971, Alberta Native Affairs has received many inquiries about Native communities in Alberta. In its efforts to promote a better understanding of Native people, Native Affairs has produced a publication entitled: **A GUIDE TO NATIVE COMMUNITIES IN ALBERTA.**

In this publication, 83 Native communities in Alberta are identified, including Metis Settlements and Indian Reserves.

The **GUIDE** presents information on the location, size, history, population, economic base, physical infrastructure, services, education, communications, local government and organizations in each community. Estimates are that these communities have at least 50% Native population, six months of the year. It is difficult to be more specific because census statistics do not identify Native people.

Each community profile is contained in a handy one-page format for quick reference.

Alberta Native Affairs is indebted to the many sources who assisted with the research and development of this publication. Information was gathered from Native Affairs staff, previous federal and provincial government publications, Alberta Municipal Affairs, Alberta Tourism and Small Business, Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements Association, Metis Association of Alberta and its Locals, Improvement District offices, community organizations, Band Councils and administration units, school boards, newspapers, and telephone and written inquiries to community contact persons. Population figures were derived from the 1981 federal census and 1984 federal Indian Band membership figures.

It is hoped that this publication will be of assistance to anyone with an interest in Alberta's Native communities. Native Affairs Secretariat could use your help in adding to or up-dating information contained in this guide. A convenient comments section is included at the end of each profile. Please send the information to Alberta Native Affairs care of the Communications Director. Additional copies of the publication are available by writing or telephoning Alberta Native Affairs.

Table of Contents

Communities

Page
Anzac 3
Blue Ridge 5
Cadotte Lake 7
Calahoo 9
Calling Lake 11
Canyon Creek 13
Chipewyan Lake 15
Conklin 17
Entrance 19
Eureka River 21
Faust 23
Fort Fitzgerald 25
Fort MacKay 27
Garden Creek 29
Grande Cache 31
Grande Cache Lake 33
Grouard 35
Gunn 37
Hines Creek 39
Imperial Mills 41
Indian Cabins, Nose Creek, Noyes Crossing 43
Joachim Enterprises 45
Joussard 47
Keg River 49
Kinuso 51
Lac La Biche 53
Loon Lake 55
Little Buffalo 57
Marlboro 59
Meander River 61
Muskeg See-Pee Co-op 63
Owl River, Lac La Biche Mission, Elinor Lake, Big Bay 65
Peerless Lake 67
Sandy Lake 69
Susa Creek Co-op 71
Trout Lake 73
Victor Lake Co-op 75
Wabasca & Desmarais 77
Wanyandie Flats 79

Indian Bands*

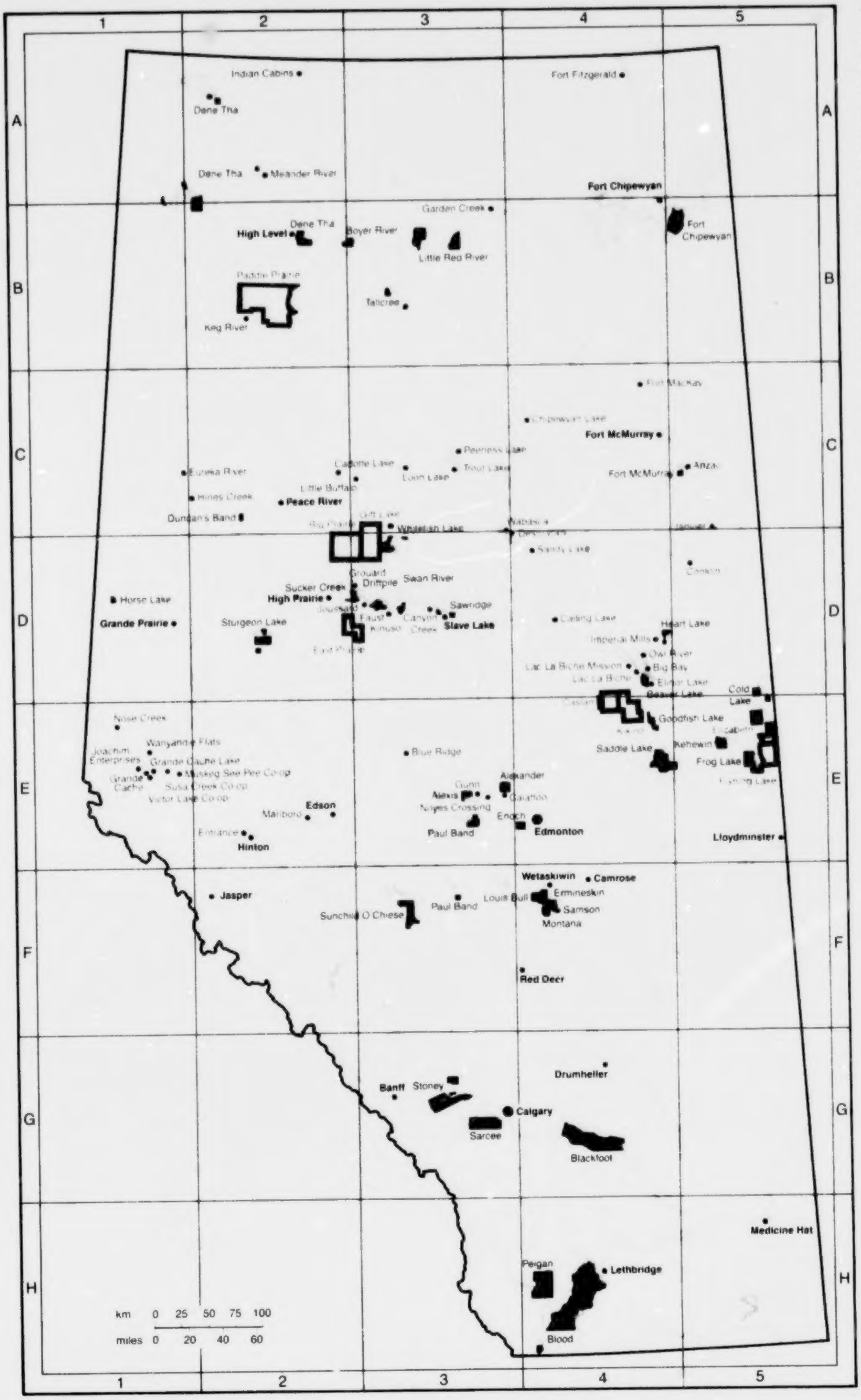
Page
Alexander 83
Alexis 85
Beaver Lake 87
Blackfoot 89
Blood 91
Boyer River 93
Cold Lake 95
Dene Tha 97
Driftpile 99
Duncan's Band 101
Enoch 103
Ermineskin 105
Fort Chipewyan 107
Fort McMurray 109
Frog Lake 111
Goodfish Lake 113
Heart Lake 115
Horse Lake 117
Janvier 119
Kehewin 121
Little Red River 123
Louis Bull 125
Montana 127
Paul Band 129
Peigan 131
Saddle Lake 133
Samson 135
Sarcee 137
Sawridge 139
Stoney 141
Sturgeon Lake 143
Sucker Creek 145
Sunchild/O'Chiese 147
Swan River 149
Tallcree 151
Whitefish Lake 153

Metis Settlements

Big Prairie 157
Caslan 159
East Prairie 161
Elizabeth 163
Fishing Lake 165
Gift Lake 167
Kikino 169
Paddle Prairie 171

*Information on the following Indian Bands is included in the Communities section of the **GUIDE**: Bigstone Cree, Fort MacKay, Cree, Lubicon Lake and Grouard.

Location Map


1
2
3
4
5
A
B
C
D
E
F
G
H
Indian Cabins
Fort Fitzgerald
Dene Tha
Meander River
Fort Chipewyan
Garden Creek
High Level
Boyer River
Little Red River
Fort Chipewyan
Paddle Prairie
Tallcree
Keg River
Fort MacKay
Chipewyan Lake
Fort McMurray
Peerless Lake
Trout Lake
Eureka River
Cadotte Lake
Loon Lake
Fort McMurray
Anzac
Hines Creek
Little Buffalo
Peace River
Duncan's Band
Gift Lake
Big Prairie
Whitefish Lake
Wabasca
Desmarais
Janvier
Sandy Lake
Conklin
Grouard
Driftpile
Swan River
Sucker Creek
High Prairie
Horse Lake
Grande Prairie
Sturgeon Lake
Joussard
Faust
Kinuso
Canyon Creek
Sawridge
Slave Lake
East Prairie
Calling Lake
Heart Lake
Imperial Mills
Owl River
Lac La Biche Mission
Lac La Biche
Big Bay
Elinor Lake
Beaver Lake
Caslan
Cold Lake
Goodfish Lake
Kikino
Elizabeth
Saddle Lake
Kehewin
Frog Lake
Fishing Lake
Nose Creek
Wanyandie Flats
Joachim Enterprises
Grande Cache Lake
Grande Cache
Muskeg See-Pee Co-op
Susa Creek Co-op
Victor Lake Co-op
Blue Ridge
Gunn
Alexander
Alexis
Calahoo
Noyes Crossing
Edson
Marlboro
Enoch
Paul Band
Edmonton
Lloydminster
Entrance
Hinton
Wetaskiwin
Camrose
Jasper
Ermineskin
Louis Bull
Paul Band
Sunchild O'Chiese
Samson
Montana
Red Deer
Drumheller
Banff
Stoney
Calgary
Sarcee
Blackfoot
Medicine Hat
Peigan
Lethbridge
Blood
km 0 25 50 75 100
miles 0 20 40 60

COMMUNITIES

Anzac	C5
Big Bay	D4
Blue Ridge	E3
Cadotte Lake	C2
Calahoo	E3
Calling Lake	D4
Canyon Creek	D3
Chipewyan Lake	C4
Conklin	D5
Desmarais	D4
Elinor Lake	D4
Entrance	E2
Eureka River	C1
Faust	D3
Fort Fitzgerald	A4
Fort MacKay	C4
Garden Creek	B3
Grande Cache	E1
Grande Cache Lake	E1
Grouard	D3
Gunn	E3
Hines Creek	C2
Imperial Mills	D4
Indian Cabins	A2
Joachim Enterprises	E1
Joussard	D3
Keg River	B2
Kinuso	D3
Lac La Biche	D4
Lac La Biche Mission	D4
Loon Lake	C3
Little Buffalo	C3
Marlboro	E2
Meander River	A2
Muskeg See-Pee Co-op	E1
Nose Creek	E1
Noyes Crossing	E3
Owl River	D4
Peerless Lake	C3
Sandy Lake	D4
Susa Creek Co-op	E1
Trout Lake	C3
Victor Lake Co-op	E1
Wabasca	C3
Wanyandie Flats	E1

INDIAN BANDS

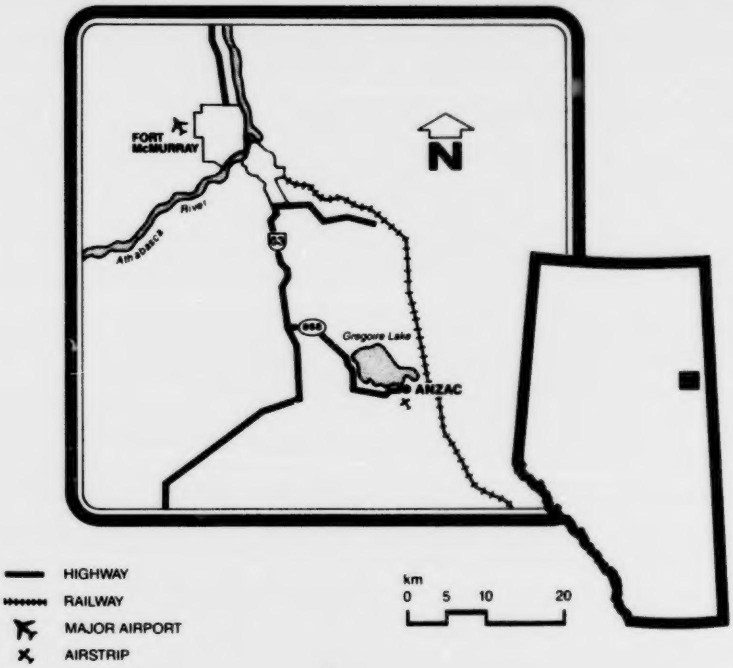
Alexander	E3
Alexis	E3
Beaver Lake	D4
Blackfoot	G4
Blood	H4
Boyer River	B2 B3
Cold Lake	D5.E5
Dene Tha	A1 A2 B1.B2
Driftpile	D3
Duncan's Band	C2
Enoch	E4
Ermineskin	F4
Fort Chipewyan	B5
Fort McMurray	C5
Frog Lake	E5
Goodfish Lake	E4
Heart Lake	D4
Horse Lake	D1
Janvier	C5
Kehewin	E5
Little Red River	B3
Louis Bull	F4
Montana	F4
Paul Band	E3.F3
Peigan	H4
Saddle Lake	E4.E5
Samson	F4
Sarcee	G3
Sawridge	D3
Stoney	G3
Sturgeon Lake	D2
Sucker Creek	D2.D3
Sunchild O'Chiese	F3
Swan River	D3
Tallcree	B3
Whitefish Lake	C3.D3

METIS SETTLEMENTS

Big Prairie	D2.D3
Caslan	D4.E4
East Prairie	D2.D3
Elizabeth	E5
Fishing Lake	E5
Gift Lake	C3.D3
Kikino	D4.E4
Paddle Prairie	B2

COMMUNITIES

Anzac



Location

The community of Anzac is located approximately 55 kms. southeast of Fort McMurray, about 18 kms. off Highway #63. It is in improvement District #18.

History

There are three Treaty Reserves in the area of Anzac. The McMurray Band of Cree and Chipewyan Indians have lived in that region for many years, mainly because of the close proximity to Gregoire Lake. Anzac existed as an identifiable Native community long before the construction of the Distant Early Warning (D.E.W.) system operated by the Department of National Defence in the early 1950's. Some residents remained in the community after the abandonment of the D.E.W. radar site in 1962.

Population

A 1981 census indicated approximately 165 people.

Economic Base

The economic base for the community is related to the oil and gas industry in and around the city of Fort McMurray Temporary employment can be found in the forest industry by fire-fighting, reforestation and slashing. Some of the residents are involved in traditional occupations such as hunting and trapping. Tourism on the lake and beach access to Gregoire Lake also generates revenue for the community.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is secondary Highway #868 which consists of 22 kms. of gravelled road. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway runs twice weekly through Anzac with freight and passenger service.

AIRPORTS: There is a private grass airstrip near the community. The nearest paved and lighted airport is in Fort McMurray.

BUS SERVICE: Flag-stop bus service is available at Anzac corner, which is located at the junction of Highway #63 and secondary Highway #868.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Homes are heated by oil, propane and wood. Water is obtained from Gregoire Lake or from wells. Sewage disposal is by septic tanks. Electricity is supplied to the residents by Alberta Power.

RECREATION: Recreational facilities include a skating rink, baseball diamond, school gymnasium and a community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one elementary school and a play school administered by the Northlands School Division. Students in pre-secondary and secondary grades are bussed to schools in Fort McMurray.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse from Fort McMurray visits the community regularly.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is one pumper unit and a fire hall in the community.

POLICE: Anzac is served by an R.C.M.P. Detachment from Fort McMurray.

Commercial Activity

There is one gas station, one general store and a hotel/cafe that service the community. There is also an arcade facility.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio and television broadcast reception is from Fort McMurray and Edmonton. The Fort McMurray Today and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspapers are available to the community.

Government

LOCAL: The area is represented on Improvement District #18 Advisory Council.

There is a Citizens' Association in the community.

Address: ANZAC CITIZENS' ASSOCIATION
Box 5041
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 3E2

PROVINCIAL: Provincial Forest Service, Recreation and Parks.

FEDERAL: Post Office

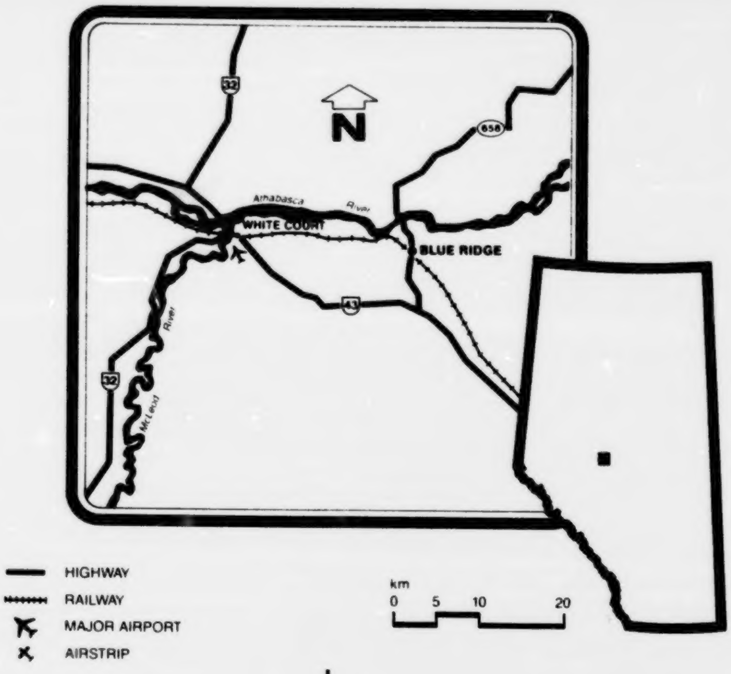
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #120 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Blue Ridge



Location

The community of Blue Ridge is located about 30 kms. east of the Town of Whitecourt in Improvement District #15.

History

The area around Blue Ridge and Whitecourt was largely uninhabited until the fur-trade. During the early 1800's, nearby Fort Assiniboine was established as a trading post. It was not until the early 1900's that settlers were attracted to Blue Ridge. Extensive forest cover enabled the community to develop the timber industry via rail service to this area. The completion of Highway #40 from Mayerthorpe to Valleyview enhanced access to this area and enabled further timber and agricultural development.

Population

A 1985 source indicated the population of Blue Ridge to be 280 people.

Economic Base

The economy of this hamlet is based largely on the timber industry. Dominant stands of black and white spruce, along with pine, fir, tamarack and birch grow profusely in this area. The Blue Ridge Lumber Company operates a planer/sawmill facility about one kilometre north of the hamlet. Agricultural activity in the area includes the growing of wheat, barley, and oats as well as the management of cattle operations. There are four oilfields in Improvement District #15, one of which is located near Blue Ridge. However, oilfield activity has declined somewhat in recent years.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access road to Blue Ridge is secondary Highway #658 and Highway #43 from Whitecourt. The internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot in Whitecourt.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in Whitecourt.

BUS SERVICE: Daily bus service, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is available in Whitecourt.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is available to this community through Trans-Alta Utilities. Natural gas and wood serve as sources of home heating. Water is supplied through a pipe system. Sewage is disposed of in a long-detention pond.

RECREATION: Facilities include a new community hall, a skating rink, parks and playground, baseball diamonds, a concession and rodeo grounds.

Education

SCHOOLS: A school in Blue Ridge, under the administration of the County of Lac St. Anne, offers grades one to nine. Students in secondary grades attend schools in Mayerthorpe, 26 kms. southeast of Blue Ridge.

Services

HEALTH: The County of Lac St. Anne maintains a health unit in the community. The closest medical facilities are located in Whitecourt and Mayerthorpe.

FIRE PROTECTION: A resident volunteer fire brigade, one truck and a pumper unit provides fire protection services.

POLICE: Blue Ridge is served by the Whitecourt R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A store, post office and bank are housed in one facility. Additional commercial services are offered in Whitecourt and Mayerthorpe.

Communications

Television reception is from CBC and CTV. There are also several individually-owned satellite receiving dishes in the community. Radio broadcast reception is from Camrose, Edson and Edmonton. Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. The Whitecourt Star, the Free Press and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Blue Ridge is represented on Improvement District #15 Advisory Council.

Blue Ridge has a Community League.

Address: BLUE RIDGE COMMUNITY LEAGUE
Box 69
Blue Ridge, Alberta
T0E 0B0

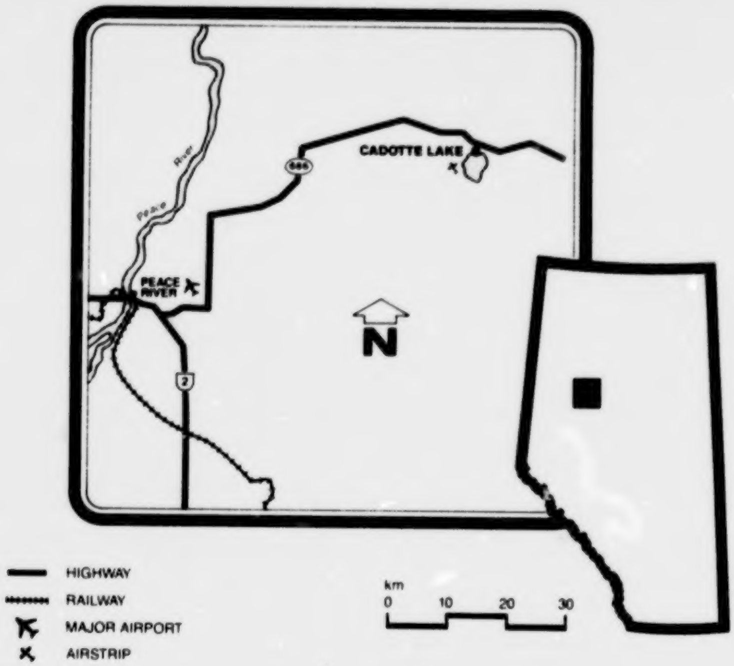
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #167 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Cadotte Lake



Location

The community of Cadotte Lake is located about 80 kms. northeast of Peace River. A representative from Improvement District #17 Advisory Council works with the community and Little Buffalo Lake.

History

The area around Cadotte Lake was originally settled by the Beaver Indian Nation. By the late 1700's, the Woodland Cree Nation migrated into the area, followed closely by the fur-traders and explorers. Trading posts were established along the Peace River during the early 1800's. Cadotte Lake was named after a fur-trader who had settled in the area. The community takes its name from the lake.

Population

A 1981 census indicated there are approximately 157 people residing in Cadotte Lake. It is a community comprised of Metis, non-Status and Status Indians.

Economic Base

The need for fire fighters provides some seasonal employment. The Alberta Opportunity Corp's training program offers some employment in house construction. There is some oil and gas exploration and seismic exploration in the area. Some logging activity is also present. Some members continue to hunt and trap to supplement their income and for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Cadotte Lake is secondary Highway #686 from Peace River. All internal roads are gravel.

RAILWAY: The nearest rail depot is located in the Town of Peace River and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: There is a gravel airstrip for light aircraft in the vicinity of Cadotte Lake. The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Peace River.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines operates a depot in Peace River.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Alberta Power provides electricity to the community of Cadotte Lake. Water is obtained from individual wells. The main sources of home heating are wood, oil and propane.

RECREATION: The Native Women's Craft Club provides social, recreational and cultural activity for some of the members. There is an outdoor skating rink in Cadotte Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Cadotte Lake School serves grades one to eight and is operated by the Northlands School Division. Students attending secondary school are boarded outside of the community. There is also a Community Vocational Centre, an Early Childhood Services program and a teacherage located in the community.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits regularly. Emergency and long-term care is available in Peace River.

POLICE: The Peace River R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

There is a small general store/gas station which also houses a post office. Additional retail services are available in Peace River.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone services. Radio reception is from Peace River, Grande Prairie and marginal reception of various Edmonton stations. Television reception is CBC, CBC-French and CTV. The Peace River Record Gazette and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Cadotte Lake Community Association is present in the community.

Address: The CADOTTE LAKE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Cadotte Lake, Alberta
T0H 0N0

Federal and provincial government services are available in Peace River.

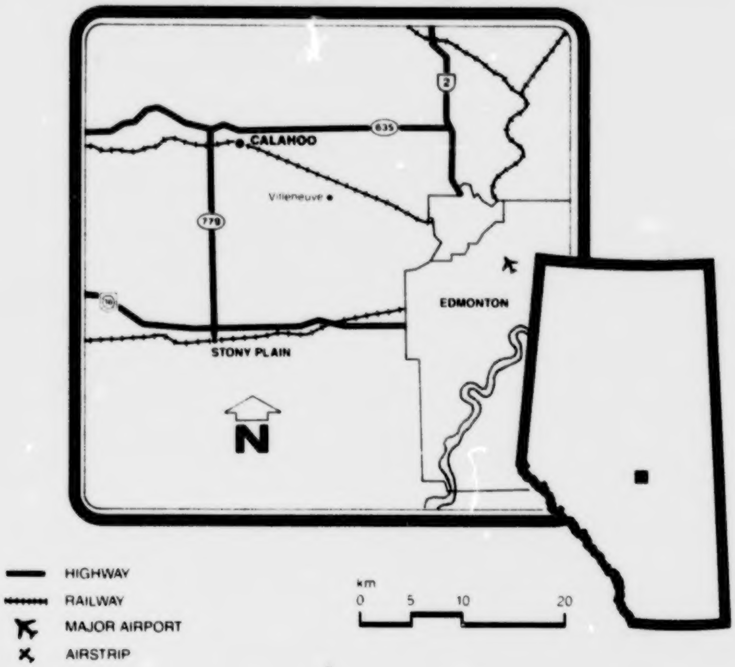
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #157 is also present.

Comments

NATIVE AFFAIRS

Calahoo



Location

The hamlet of Calahoo is located 56 kms. northwest of the City of Edmonton in Municipal District #40.

History

Calahoo traces its historical roots to an Indian Reserve which was originally known as Michael's Reserve.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Calahoo to be approximately 163 people.

Economic Base

The main economic resource of this community is based on agriculture. Oil and gas exploration and drilling in the area also serves as a means of employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to this area is by secondary Highway #635. Internally, the roads are paved and gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot, operated by the Canadian National Railway, is located in Villeneuve.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Edmonton.

BUS SERVICES: Greyhound Bus Lines offers bus service from a depot in Stony Plain.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided to Calahoo residents by Alberta Power. Homes are heated with natural gas or propane. Water is obtained from wells and underground springs. Sewage is disposed of in a lagoon by a recently-installed sewer system.

RECREATION: Facilities include an arena and baseball diamonds.

Education

SCHOOLS: Children are bussed to schools in Riviere Qui Barre or Namao. These schools are administered by Sturgeon School Division #24.

Services

HEALTH: Residents commute to St. Albert to receive medical care.

FIRE PROTECTION: A resident volunteer fire brigade offers protection to this area.

POLICE: The R.C.M.P. Detachment in Stony Plain serves the residents of Calahoo.

Commercial Activity

A grocery store and gas station provides goods and services to this community. Additional commercial services are available in St. Albert.

Communications

Television channels CTV, CBC and ITV are received as are various Edmonton radio stations. Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. The St. Albert Gazette, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Edmonton dailies provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The hamlet of Calahoo is represented on Municipal District #40.

Address: THE HAMLET OF CALAHOO
General Delivery,
Calahoo, Alberta
T0G 0J0

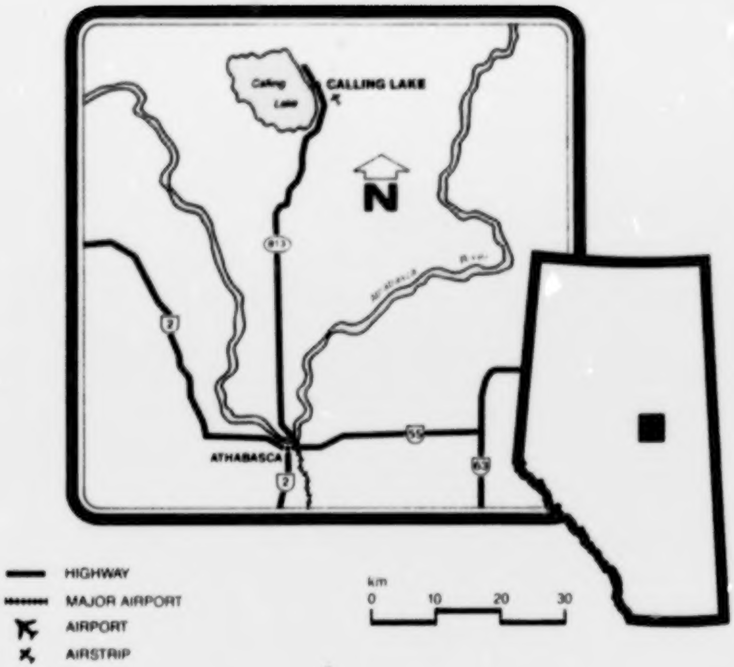
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #135 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Calling Lake



Location

The hamlet of Calling Lake is located on the east shore of Calling Lake approximately 60 kms. north of Athabasca. It is situated in Improvement District #17.

History

Calling Lake was named by the local Cree Indians because of the loud sound of the ice breaking up during the spring thaw. The Jean Baptiste Indian Reserve #183, which is part of the Bigstone Cree Indian Band, is located 5 kms. north of the hamlet of Calling Lake. It is considered to be part of the community because of land leased by the Crown for Indian housing which is located within community boundaries.

Population

A 1982 census indicated 350 people in the hamlet of Calling Lake.

Economic Base

The economic base for Calling Lake is mainly geared towards short-term government sponsored projects and seasonal employment in the forestry industry. There are a number of businesses that provide permanent employment for some residents. Hunting, fishing and trapping are used mainly to supplement income. The community is looking into an economic development program that will attract employment opportunities for the entire community. The cottages which are located on the lakeshore bring tourism revenues into the community during the summer months.

Tranportation Services

ROADS: Calling Lake is accessible from secondary Highway #813. A winter road north to Sandy Lake and Wabasca/Desmarais is maintained by Alberta Transportation during the winter months.

AIRPORT: There is a 1,100 metre (3,000 foot) paved and lighted airstrip at Calling Lake.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in Athabasca.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Athabasca.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Treated water is delivered by truck to a community water point. Electricity is supplied by Trans-Alta Utilities. Homes are heated by propane or heating oil.

RECREATION: Facilities include two skating rinks, a community centre, a baseball diamond, two public beaches and a picnic area.

Education

SCHOOLS: Calling Lake has one school, offering grades one to eight, administered by the Northlands School Division. Students in grades nine to 12 are bussed to Athabasca. There is also a Community Vocational Centre in the hamlet.

Services

HEALTH: There is a health unit sub-office with two staff. A visiting doctor serves the community weekly.

FIRE PROTECTION: A fire hall, one fire truck and a volunteer fire brigade are available to the community.

POLICE: Calling Lake is served by an R.C.M.P. Detachment from Athabasca.

Commercial Activity

The community has two grocery stores, two gas stations, one motel and snack bar, a general contractor, Ku-Nah Equipment, one taxi cab and resort cabins.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio reception includes Peace River, Camrose and Edmonton stations. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper is available to Calling Lake residents.

Government

LOCAL: The area is represented on the Advisory Council of Improvement District #17.
Address: Improvement District #17
Box 722
Slave Lake, Alberta
T0G 2A0

PROVINCIAL: Alberta Opportunity Corps, Alberta Government Telephones, Recreation and Parks and Energy and Natural Resources (Forestry) are present in the community.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT: A post office is located in the community.

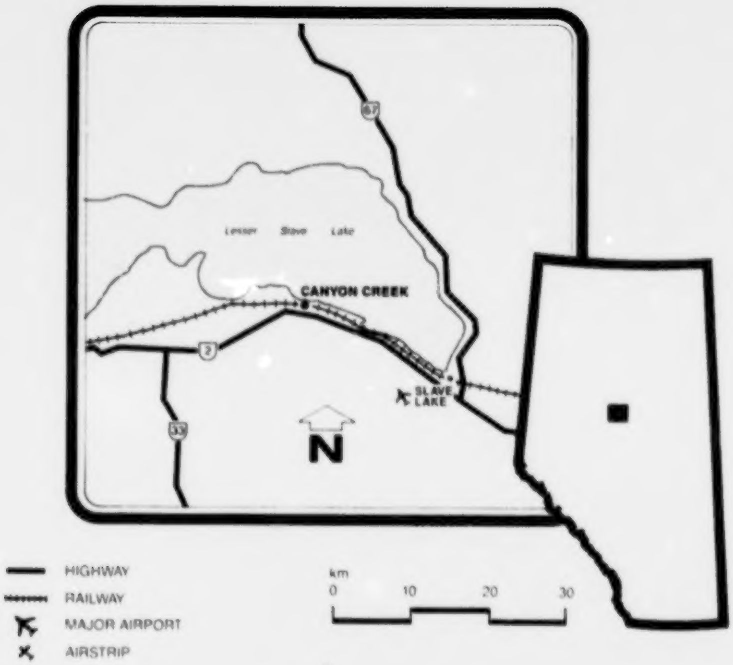
Other Organizations

There is also a Community Association in the hamlet. Metis Association of Alberta #127 is also present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Canyon Creek



Location

The hamlet of Canyon Creek is located on the southern shore of the Lesser Slave Lake approximately 25 kms. west of the Town of Slave Lake. It is situated in Improvement District #17.

History

Canyon Creek was once a major commercial centre for the area around the Lesser Slave Lake. It was established in the 1930's as a major mink ranching area. Commercial fishing was an important industry. In the late 1950's, a fish hatchery was operating in the community and was involved in re-stocking the Lesser Slave Lake and surrounding rivers and streams. Presently, Canyon Creek, Widewater and Wagner are considered to be one community because of their close proximity. They are often referred to as the "Southshore area", with the Town of Slave Lake being their service centre.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Canyon Creek to be 145 people. The community's population is almost evenly divided between non-Native and Metis of Cree ancestry.

Economic Base

The main contribution to the economy of Canyon Creek is tourism. The area's scenic beauty and the completion of the Canyon Creek Provincial Park will further enhance the tourism potential. A harbour located near the community on the shore of the Lesser Slave Lake offers sports-fishing. Hunting and guiding activities are a source of employment for some residents. The logging industry in the area also offers some employment opportunities. Some employment is found in the Town of Slave Lake.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 passes directly south of the community. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway offers freight and passenger service from a depot in the Town of Slave Lake.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

BUS SERVICE: Flag-stop bus service is available from Greyhound Bus Lines. The nearest depot is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is supplied from the Lesser Slave Lake to a reservoir which is connected to a water treatment plant. Sewage disposal is by septic tanks. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. Natural gas from the Swan River Natural Gas Co-Op and wood are the main sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities in the community include a hall for social functions, a baseball diamond and an outdoor skating rink. Additional recreational facilities are available in the Town of Slave Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to the Town of Slave Lake to attend school.

Services

HEALTH: Medical services are available in the Town of Slave Lake.

FIRE PROTECTION: Fire protection services are available from the Widewater volunteer fire brigade which is located about 5 kms. from Canyon Creek.

POLICE: The Slave Lake R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

There is a general store, a hotel and a post office located in Canyon Creek. Full retail services are available in the Town of Slave Lake.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Govenment Telephones. Various Edmonton radio stations are available, as is CBC-TV and CFRN. Individually owned satellite-receiving dishes are located in the community. The Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Canyon Creek is represented on the Improvement District #17 Advisory Council.

The Canyon Creek Community Association is present in the community.

Address: CANYON CREEK COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Canyon Creek, Alberta
T0G 0M0

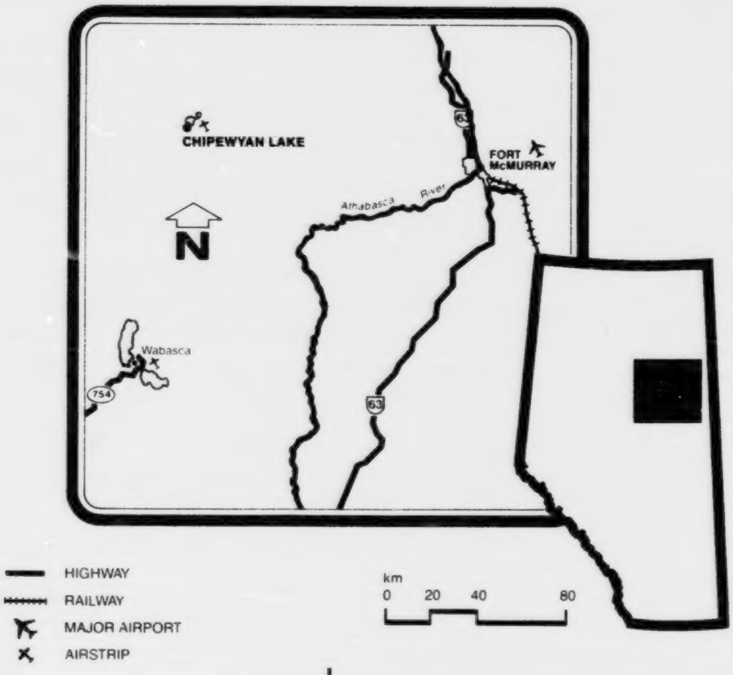
Other Organizations

Also present in the community are the Lakefront Youth Club and the Metis Association of Alberta Local #555.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Chipewyan Lake



Location

The settlement is situated on the south shore of Chipewyan Lake. It is approximately 145 air kms. west of Fort McMurray and about 85 kms. northeast of Wabasca. The area is represented on the Improvement District #17 Advisory Council.

History

Some residents of Chipewyan Lake have traditional ties with members of the Bigstone Cree Indian Band in Wabasca and the Fort MacKay Indian Band. Chipewyan Lake is an excellent hunting, trapping and fishing area and has been settled by Native people since before the fur-trade. Because of the remoteness of the area, commercial development has not been a significant economic consideration.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 156 people.

Economic Base

The residents of Chipewyan Lake derive their income mainly from traditional activities such as hunting, trapping and fishing. Horses are raised for occasional outfitting and guiding opportunities. Some cattle are raised for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: This area is not accessible to motor vehicle traffic during the summer months. Travel is limited to air service from Fort McMurray or Wabasca. During the winter months when the land is sufficiently frozen to hold vehicle weight, access is via a winter road from Fort McMurray, Slave Lake and Wabasca. Chipewyan Lake has a grass landing strip located on the south west edge of the community. Internal roads are gravel.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electrical service is provided by Alberta Power. Water is obtained from the lake or from individual wells. The main sources of home heating are wood, oil and propane.

RECREATION: There is an outdoor skating rink situated in the community.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school, operated by the Northlands School Division, offering grades one to eight. Students attending secondary school are boarded out of the community.

Services

HEALTH: Chipewyan Lake is served by visiting professionals including public health nurses, doctors and dentists. There is a public health unit located in the community. Full medical services are available in Fort McMurray. Air ambulance services are on-call 24-hours a day.

POLICE: The Fort McMurray R.C.M.P. Detachment serves the community by air.

Commercial Activity

A small general store and post office serves the immediate needs of the community. Due to the isolation of the community, supplies must be flown in or transported by truck during the winter months.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio broadcast reception is from Fort McMurray, Peace River, Camrose and Edmonton stations. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper provides newspaper service.

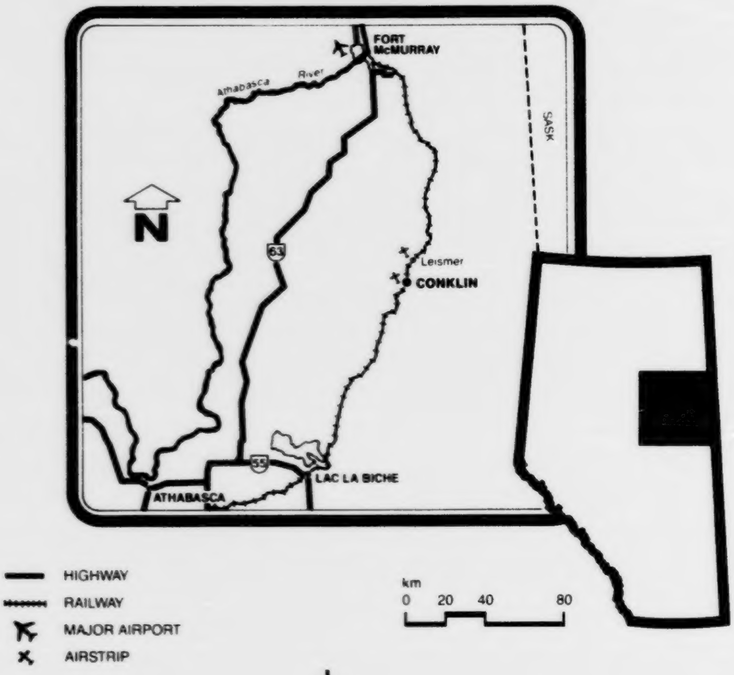
Government

LOCAL: The Wayetnow Association is located in the community and functions as a community advisory.

Address: WAYETNOW ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Chipewyan Lake, Alberta
T0G 0B0

Comments

Conklin



Location

The hamlet of Conklin is located along the Canadian National Railway line approximately 128 kms. north of Lac La Biche. It is in Improvement District #18 — North.

History

The hamlet was named after John Conklin, who was a time-keeper for J.P. MacArthur, a railway contractor. It was formerly a village on the Alberta and Grandtrunk Waterways Railway line.

Population

A 1981 census indicated approximately 116 people in the community, a majority of which are Metis.

Economic Base

Most employment opportunities are found with job-creation projects. A corduroy road is being built from Conklin to Lac La Biche, a distance of about 10 kms. Other types of work can be found in the forest industry with short-term employment provided by fire-fighting activities. Some of the residents also maintain a livelihood from traditional occupations such as hunting and trapping.

Transportation Services

ROADS: There is a winter access road to Lac La Biche and Fort McMurray. An all-weather road between Conklin and Janvier is near completion.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway provides service through Conklin twice a week.

AIRPORT: Conklin has a grass landing strip. There is also a lighted gravel airstrip in Leismer, 13 kms. north.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in the Town of Lac La Biche.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by TransAlta Utilities. Water is obtained from Christina Lake. Homes are heated by wood.

RECREATION: Facilities in the community include a baseball diamond, playground and a skating rink.

Education

SCHOOLS: Conklin has a new school, under the administration of the Northlands School Division, serving grades one to eight. Pre-secondary and secondary students are boarded out of the community.

Services

HEALTH: Conklin has a visiting public health nurse. The nearest medical facilities are in Fort McMurray.

POLICE: Conklin is served by the Lac La Biche R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Retail services are available in Lac La Biche and Fort MacMurray.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton, St. Paul and Camrose. There is a privately owned satellite receiving dish. The Lac La Biche Post and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspapers are available to the community.

Government

LOCAL: Conklin is represented on Improvement District #18 North Advisory Council.

Address: Improvement District #18
535 West Tower,
Provincial Building
9915, Franklin Ave
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 2Y4

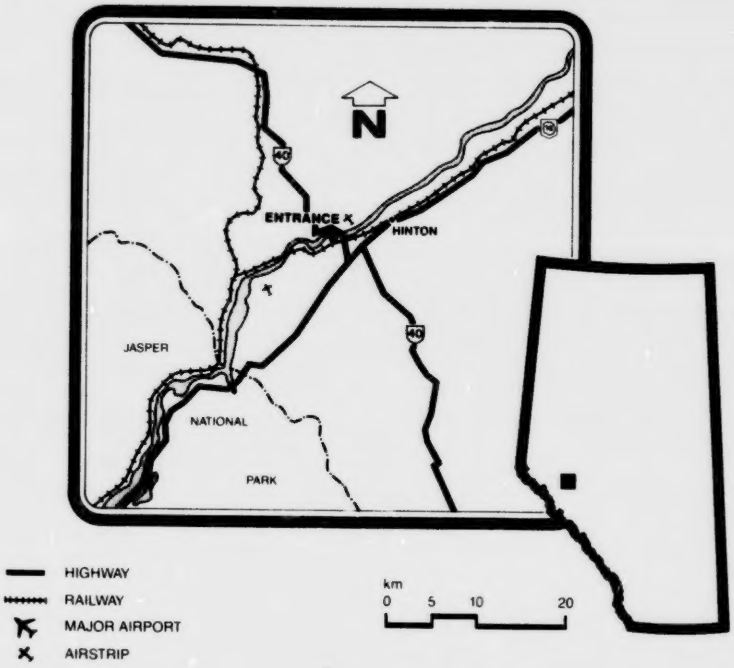
Other Organizations

Also present in the community is the Metis Association of Alberta Local #193.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Entrance



Location

The community of Entrance is situated approximately 16 kms. west of Hinton in Improvement District #14. The Athabasca River runs north of the community.

History

Entrance derived its name because it was the entrance to Jasper National Park. The Canadian National Railway maintained a station house in the community, which was the last station before entering the Rocky Mountains. A small community sprang up boasting a general store and post office, boarding-house, barn, houses, community hall and the CNR station. The population numbering over 100 people during peak years, consisted of Park Rangers, Forest Wardens, lumbermen, hunters, trappers and guides.

Population

A 1981 source indicates the population of Entrance to be 89 people. About half of the population is of Native descent.

Economic Base

Employment opportunities are found in coal, timber, and trapping. Gregg River Resources, Cardinal River Coal and Obed Mountain Coal offer employment in the coal mines which are operating in the area. The St. Regis Pulp and Paper Mill is another source of employment. Individual employment is found with local slashing and clearing crews from Hinton and from the Department of Highways. Trapping, outfitting and guiding are other sources of employment. The area from Entrance to Grande Cache has potential for the development of tourist-oriented facilities.

Blue Lake Recreation Centre, Jarvais Lake, Gregg Lakes, Pierre Grey Lake and Rock Lakes have been developed for tourism. The William A. Switzer Provincial Park is located near Entrance.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Entrance is secondary Highway #40 leading from Highway #16.

BUS SERVICES: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Hinton.

AIRPORT: A grass landing strip is located north of Entrance. The Hinton-Jasper Airport, a 1,100 metre (3,700 foot) long paved and lighted airport is located about 10 kms. west of Entrance.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Hinton and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Trans-Alta Utilities provides electrical service. Some homes are serviced with running water and indoor plumbing. Water is obtained from community wells and natural springs. The main sources of home heating are wood, diesel-fuel and propane.

RECREATION: Outdoor summer and winter recreation activities include fishing, camping, boating, skating, snow-mobiling and cross-country skiing. Additional recreational facilities are available in Hinton.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Hinton. The five schools located there are under the adminisration of the Yellowhead School Division. The Yellowhead Regional Education Consortium and the Forest Technology School in Hinton offer upgrading and post-secondary courses.

Services

HEALTH: The Hinton Municipal Hospital and the Edson Health Unit located in Hinton provide medical care to the residents of Entrance.
POLICE: The Hinton R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

Retail and commercial services are offered in the Town of Hinton.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides party-line telephone service to Entrance. Radio reception is provided by CJYR-Edson and various Edmonton radio stations. Television reception is provided by CBC-TV. The Hinton Herald Parklander, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and the Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Entrance is represented on Improvement District #14 Advisory Council.

Address: IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT
#14 Box 1240
Edson, Alberta
TOE OPO

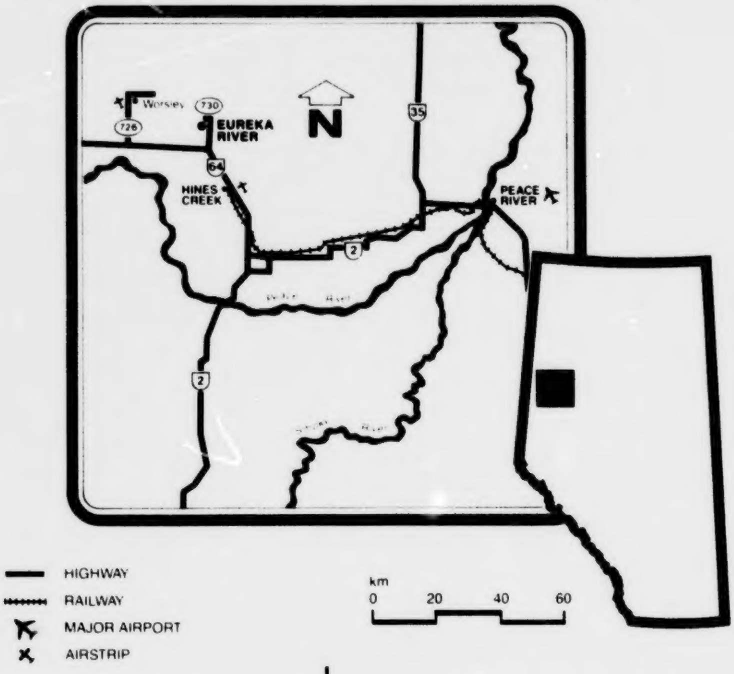
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #177, Native Outreach and Referral, Native Recreation and Cultural Society, Hinton Native Women Society and Native Counselling Services are located in Hinton and serve the residents of Entrance.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Eureka River



Location

Eureka River is located 198 kms. north of Peace River and 55 kms southeast of Fairview. It is located in Improvement District #16.

History

This country residential subdivision has been in existence for two years. Land was set aside for Metis people, by Alberta Forestry, for residential purposes.

Population

Eureka River, a Metis housing project, has a present population of five families.

Economic Base

Income is derived mainly from seasonal employment such as slashing and road construction. Major economic activities in the area include developing agricultural resources, forestry and oil and gas exploration.

The amount of productive farmland is steadily increasing. The primary crops are wheat, oats, barley and canola. Iron ore deposits have been located in this area and may serve as a profitable natural resource in the future.

The forest industry also serves as another important economic factor. Canfor Mill, in operation since 1969, is located north of Hines Creek. Proctor and Gamble hauls wood chips and logs from this area for use in the Grande Prairie pulp and paper mills.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access roads to Eureka River are Primary Highway #64 and paved secondary Highway #730. Internal roads are gravelled.

RAIL: The nearest railway depot, operated by the Canadian National Railway, is located in Hines Creek.

AIRPORT: Two grass landing strips are located in Worsley and Hines Creek.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Hines Creek.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Alberta Power provides electrical service to the residents of Eureka River. Water is hauled from Worsley and stored in cisterns. Wood, oil and propane serve as sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Worsley and Hines Creek offer a range of recreational facilities.

Education

SCHOOLS: Grades one to nine are offered in the Menno-Simons School. This school is under the administration of Fairview School Division #50. Students attending pre-secondary and secondary schools commute to Fairview.

Services

HEALTH: Medical care is available from the hospital located in Fairview.

FIRE: Fire protection equipment includes a portable fire trailer.

POLICE: The Fairview R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Full retail services are available in Fairview.

Communications

Radio stations from Grande Prairie and Peace River are recieved in this area. Television stations include CBC and CTV. Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, the Dawson Signal and the Fairview Post provide newspaper services.

Government

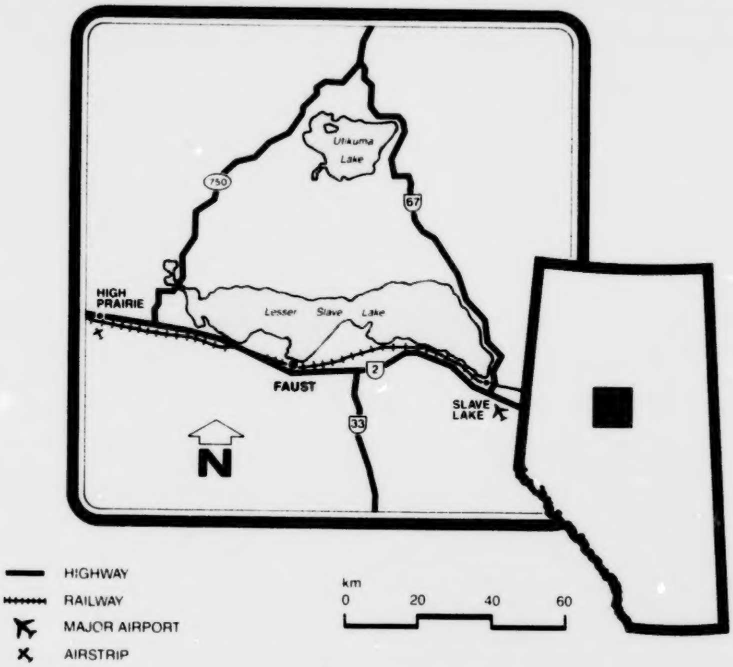
This area is represented on Improvement District #16 Advisory Council.

Address: Improvement District #16
Box 1079
Valleyview, Alberta.
T0H 3N0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Faust



Location

The hamlet of Faust is located 55 kms. west of the Town of Slave Lake on the south shore of the Lesser Slave Lake. It is under the administration of Improvement District #17 Advisory Council.

History

Faust was once an important centre for the fishing and trapping industry and was known as a "hunter's paradise". The main water and land routes for explorers, traders and settlers were located in this area. Some residents of Faust have historical ties with members of the Woodland Cree Indian Nation. The Edmonton, Dunvegan and British Columbia Railway were commissioned to build a standard grade railroad from Edmonton to Dunvegan and on to Fort George, British Columbia. Around the year 1907, the railway passed through Faust enhancing access to this area. The railroad is presently owned by the Canadian National Railway.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Faust to be 397 people.

Economic Base

Some employment opportunities are found with the various oil rigs which are operating in the area. The Spruce Point Park, a joint venture between Faust and Kinuso, offers outdoor recreation and tourism facilities. Camping, boating and hiking are popular pastimes. The Park is situated about 10 kms. east of Faust. The Northwest Fishermens Co-Operative is located in Faust and offers employment opportunities. The Carol Banister School located in the community also employs some residents.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Access to Faust is from Primary Highway #2. All internal roads are paved and gravelled.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates depots in the Towns of Slave Lake and in High Prairie.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airports are located in Slave Lake and High Prairie.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers flag-stop service to Faust residents.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Treated water and indoor plumbing services are provided by a water and sewer plant. The main sources of home heating are propane, natural gas and wood.

RECREATION: Facilities include a community hall, playground, baseball diamond and outdoor skating rink. The Spruce Point Park, on the south shore of Lesser Slave Lake near Faust, offers a camper parking pad, a boat launch and numerous hiking and biking trails. Additional facilities are available in Slave Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school in the community serving kindergarten to grade six. Grades seven to 12 are bussed to Kinuso. Both schools are administered by the High Prairie School Division.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits once a week from a health clinic in Kinuso. Additional medical facilities and services are available in Slave Lake and High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: A volunteer fire brigade and one pumper unit provides fire protection services.

POLICE: An R.C.M.P. Detachment resides in the community.

Commercial Activity

There are garages, stores, a laundromat, post office, a hotel and a Treasury Branch located in Faust. Additional commercial services are available in nearby Kinuso, Slave Lake and High Prairie.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Peace River, Camrose, Grande Prairie and various Edmonton radio stations are received. CBC-TV and CFRN broadcasts to this area. Newspaper service is provided by the Slave Lake Leader/Scope, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and South Peace News.

Government

LOCAL: The Faust Community League is located in the community.

Address: FAUST COMMUNITY LEAGUE
General Delivery,
Faust, Alberta
T0G 0X0

Provincial and Federal services are available in High Prairie or in Slave Lake.

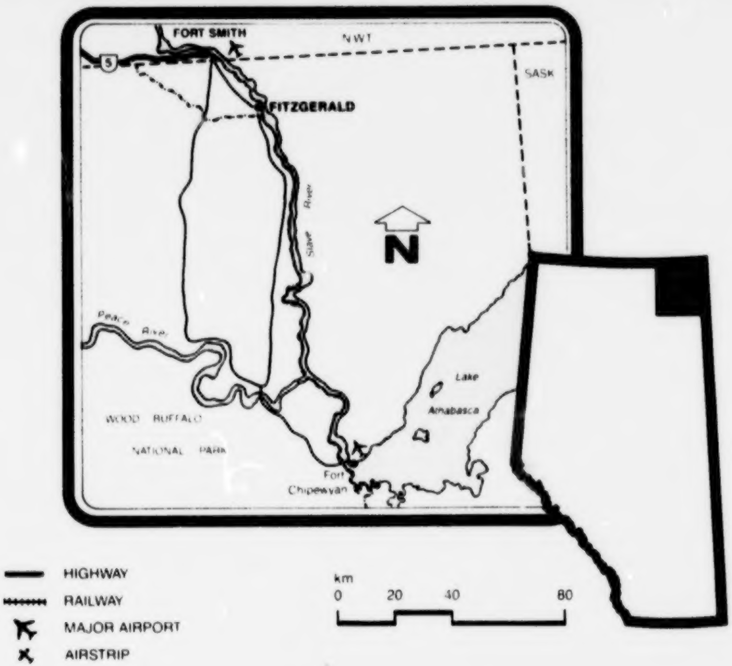
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #147 has a presence in the community. Faust has a Regional Community Development Corporation.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Fort Fitzgerald



Location

The community of Fort Fitzgerald is located approximately 200 kms. north of Fort Chipewyan. It is situated in Improvement District #18 near the N.W.T./Alberta border.

History

In 1874, the Hudson Bay Company established Fort Smith trading post 13 kms. north of Fort Fitzgerald. Until the introduction of roads and railways to the north, both Fort Fitzgerald and Fort Smith were used as portage terminuses along the Slave River. In later years, a rail line was constructed from the south to Peace Point, N.W.T. Transportation by water declined resulting in less activity in Fort Smith and Fort Fitzgerald.

Population

A 1981 census indicated approximately 25 people living in Fitzgerald.

Economic Base

Seasonal trapping and summer fire-fighting are the main employment opportunities for the residents. Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some community members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #5 links the Town of Fort Smith on the Alberta/N.W.T. border to Fort Fitzgerald, a distance of approximately 25 kms. An extension of this road leads further south through Wood Buffalo National Park, extending as far as Fort Chipewyan as a winter road.

AIRPORT: The nearest commercial airport is located in Fort Smith.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Fort Smith.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electrical service is provided by a generator. Water is obtained directly from the Slave River. Homes are heated by oil and wood.

RECREATION: Snowmobiling and cross-country skiing are popular pastimes.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Fort Smith.

Services

HEALTH: The nearest health services are in Fort Smith.

POLICE: The community is served by the Fort Smith R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Retail services are available in Fort Smith.

Communications

Due to the inaccessibility of the area, modern communication services are not readily available to the residents although some radio broadcasts are received.

Government

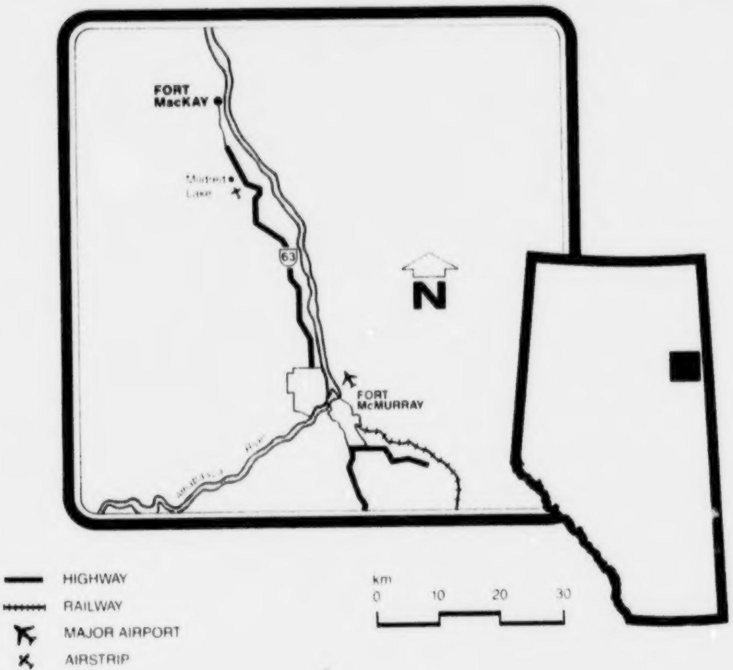
LOCAL: The hamlet is administered by Improvement District #18.

Address: Regional Director ID #18
Administration Provincial Building
Bag 900, Box 30
Peace River, Alberta
T0H 2X0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Fort Mackay



Location

The community of Fort MacKay is located approximately 55 kms. north of Fort McMurray on the west bank of the Athabasca River. It is located in Improvement District #18.

History

Before the time of European contact, the Chipewyan Indians hunted the area around Fort MacKay. They were a nomadic people, but with the introduction of the fur trade, were persuaded to settle near trading posts. Fort MacKay dates back to 1820 when the Hudson Bay Company built a trading post near the present site.

The name of the post was changed in 1912 to Fort MacKay in honor of Dr. William Morrison MacKay.

The community is situated across the river from the MacKay Band Reserve. The MacKay Band also has Reserves at Namur Lake 174B and Gardiner Lakes 174A approximately 50 kms. northwest of Fort MacKay. These Reserves are largely unoccupied as Band members reside in Fort MacKay.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 267 people in Fort MacKay. This includes members of the Fort MacKay Band.

Economic Base

The economic base of Fort MacKay is directly related to the oil and forest industries. Companies such as Suncor and Syncrude employ some residents. Seasonal work in the forestry industry, such as fire-fighting and slashing, provide another source of employment. Hunting and trapping are used by a few residents as a source of income.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access into Fort MacKay is at the end of Highway #63. About 25 kms. of gravel road leads into Fort MacKay. Internal roads are all-weather gravel and dirt.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is in Fort McMurray and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located three kms. south at Mildred Lake. There is a paved and lighted airport at Fort McMurray.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Fort McMurray. A private bus company offers service to and from Fort McMurray daily.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is hauled from Fort McMurray and stored in individual water-tanks. A majority of homes are supplied with electricity from Alberta Power and are heated with oil and wood.

RECREATION: Facilities include a skating rink, baseball diamond, youth centre and the school gymnasium.

Education

SCHOOLS: The community of Fort MacKay has one school offering grades one to nine, which is administered by the Northlands School Division #61. Students in grades 10 to 12 attend school in Fort McMurray.

Services

HEALTH: The community has a health clinic with a visiting public health nurse.

FIRE PROTECTION: Emergency fire protection is provided by the nearby Syncrude plant.

POLICE: The community is served by a Fort McMurray R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is one store in the community that also serves as a post office and gas station. There is a video rental shop in the Band Administration Office.

Communications

Telephone service is supplied to the residents by Alberta Government Telephones. Television broadcast reception is from CBC and CBC-French. Radio reception is from Fort McMurray and Edmonton. There is also a community newsletter and the residents receive the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: The Band members are governed by a Chief and four Councillors.

Address: FORT MacKAY BAND
Box 5360
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 3G4

PROVINCIAL: There is a Forestry Station in the community.

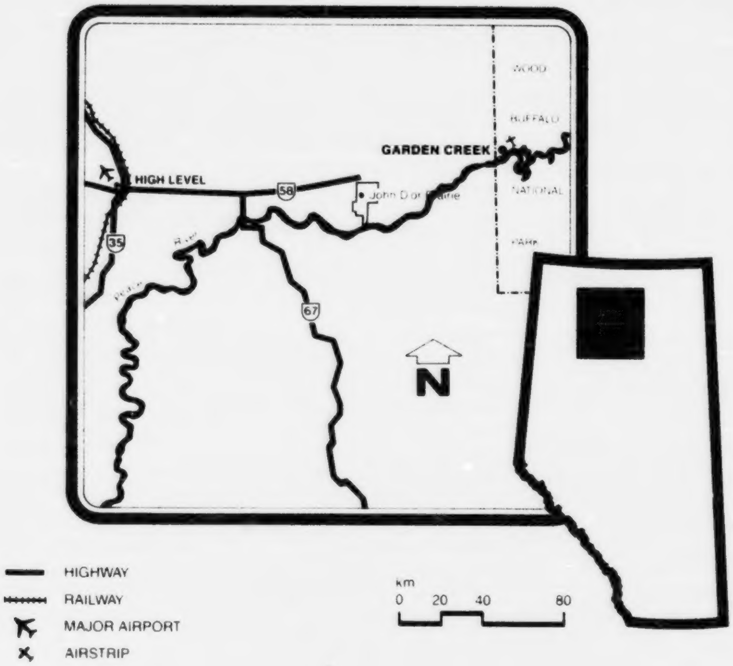
FEDERAL: Post Office

Other Organizations

The Red River Point Society is located in the community and represents the Metis population.

Comments

Garden Creek



Location

The Garden Creek settlement is located downstream from Jean D'or Prairie on the north bank of the Peace River. It is situated just within the boundary of Wood Buffalo National Park. This settlement is approximately 200 air kms. east of the town of High Level.

History

The residents of Garden Creek are of Cree and Metis descent. Most residents are members of the Little Red River Indian Band. The Headman of the Band entered into Treaty #8 on behalf of his people on July 8, 1899 in Fort Vermilion.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 141 people, 90% being Treaty Indians and the remaining 10% being Metis and non-Native.

Economic Base

Trapping and hunting have been the traditional occupations of most members. Fire-fighting, reforestation and logging provide seasonal employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main vehicle access is via Highway #58 to Jean D'or Prairie. A winter road leads to the settlement. Internal roads are dirt and gravel.

AIRPORT: A federal airstrip serving private and charter flights is located here.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by an Alberta Power electrical generating station. Wood is the main source of home heating. Water is obtained from wells.

RECREATION: Facilities include the school gymnasium, outdoor skating rink and baseball diamonds.

Education

SCHOOLS: One school, offering grades one to nine, is operated by the Northlands School Division. Students in secondary grades board in High Level and Peace River.

Services

HEALTH: The Department of National Health and Welfare operates a clinic in the community. The nearest hospital is located in Fort Vermilion.

POLICE: The Fort Vermilion R.C.M.P. Detachment serves this area.

Commercial Activity

A general store located in the community serves the immediate needs of the residents. Additional retail services are offered in High Level.

Communications

A relay tower in Fox Lake facilitates television and radio broadcast reception. Telephone communication is by a mobile telephone.

Government

LOCAL: This area is represented on Improvement District #24 Advisory Council.

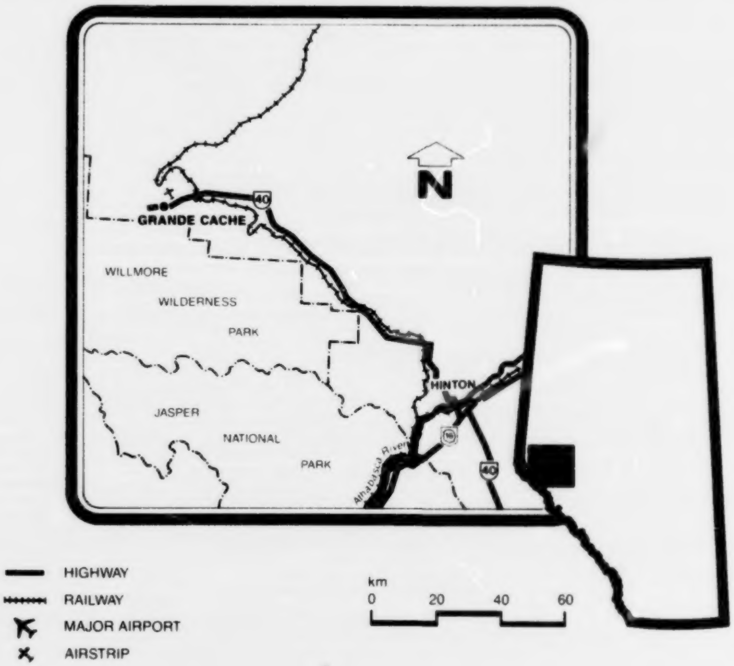
A Chief and Councillor administer the Treaty Indians of the community.

Address: LITTLE RED RIVER BAND
Box 1165
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Grande Cache



Location

The Town of Grande Cache is located 145 kms. north of the Town of Hinton at the foothills of the Rocky Mountains. It is situated in Improvement District #16.

History

The area surrounding Grande Cache was originally settled in the late 1700's by a small group of Native people. Between 1909 and 1911, when Jasper National Park was being developed, the Native people who lived there were re-located to the Grande Cache area.

In 1969, coal was discovered by McIntyre-Porcupine Mines Limited and the population grew rapidly. In 1983, McIntyre-Porcupine changed its name to Smoky River Coal, after the major river that runs through the area.

Population

The present population of Grande Cache is 4,625 people. This includes the residents in nearby Muskeg See-Pee Co-op, Victor Lake Co-op, Wanyandie Flatts Co-op, Susa Creek Co-op, Grande Cache Lake Enterprises and Joachim Enterprises.

Economic Base

The economy of Grande Cache is derived from coal deposits, timber and gas.

The major industry in Grande Cache is coal mining through Smoky River Coal Limited. The mine-site is situated about 40 kms north of the townsite.

British Columbia Forest Products operates a sawmill and planer facility for timber and logging production.

It has its own reforestation program.

Natural gas and oil-well sites have been developed near Muskeg, about 27 kms. east of Grande Cache.

The Provincial Government has begun construction on a maximum-security Correctional Institute with a completion date scheduled for 1986. This will undoubtedly supply employment to some of the Town's labour force.

Major construction has begun on a highway between Muskeg and Grande Prairie and offers employment opportunites.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Main access to this area is via Highway #40. All internal roads are paved.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot offering freight and passenger service is located in Hinton about 145 kms.south of Grande Cache.

AIRPORT: A paved and lighted airstrip is located at Mission Creek, a few kilometres from Grande Cache.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines operates a depot in Hinton. Daily service is provided by Northway Bus Service from Grande Cache to Hinton. Transport trucks also provide freight services daily.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from nearby Victor Lake and from the Grande Cache Lake. It is forced through a pressure-filteration process and undergoes chlorination. Sewage disposal is through a treatment plant and four short-detention lagoons. Alberta Power supplies electrical service to the Town. The main sources of home heating are propane and natural gas.

RECREATION: Recreational facilities include a golf-course, indoor swimming pool, curling rink and tennis courts. There is also an annual celebration in June called the Coal Dust Days.

Education

SCHOOLS: There are five schools in Grande Cache under the administration of the Yellowhead School Division. The Yellowhead Regional Education Consortium offers up-grading and technical courses.

Services

HEALTH: Grande Cache has a 34-bed hospital which supplies medical service to the surrounding areas. There are five doctors and two dentists. The Edson Health Unit maintains a facility there.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a fire-hall and three pumper units manned by a 35-member volunteer fire brigade. They provide service to all surrounding areas.

POLICE: A resident R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

The Bank of Commerce and the Toronto Dominion Bank are located in the Town. There are two shopping malls, numerous restaurants and five hotels and motels. There are a number of gas stations and an Esso Bulk Station. Native Referral and Handicrafts are located in the Town. Alberta Power provides some employment to the residents.

Communication

A sister-station of CJYR-Edson is received in this area. CBC and various Edmonton television braodcasts are received via a cable system. Northern Cable-Vision is the local community channel. The Grande Cache Mountaineer, the Hinton Herald Parklander, the Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The Town of Grande Cache is governed by an elected Chairman and a six-member board of Administrators.

Address: The TOWN of GRANDE CACHE
Box 300
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

PROVINCIAL: Provincially administered programs and facilities are: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), Social Services and Community Health, Grande Cache Provincial Court (Circuit Judge), Energy and Natural Resources, Transportation, Solicitor General's Department, and a Medical Examiner (Coroner).

FEDERAL: Employment and Immigration and Canada Post.

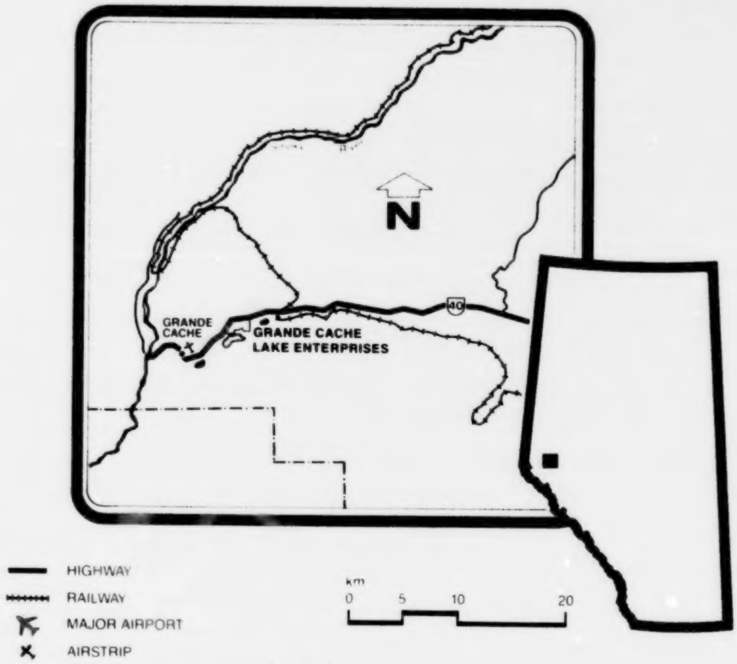
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral, and Native Counselling Services are also present in the Town. There are 13 local organizations in the Town of Grande Cache.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Grande Cache Lake



Locations

Grande Cache Lake Enterprises, also known as Kamisak Developments, is located about 8 kms. east of the Town of Grande Cache in Improvement District #16. It is situated between the Peavine and Grande Cache Lakes, and covers about 123 hectares (304 acres).

History

The Native people who resided in Jasper National Park moved to the area around present-day Grande Cache when the Park was being established in 1911. In 1974, the Provincial Government granted 123 hectares (304 acres) to Grande Cache Lake Enterprises with the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source has indicated the population of Grande Cache Lake Enterprises to be 53 people. The members of this Co-op are a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestry.

Economic Base

British Columbia Forest Products offers employment in a sawmill and planer facility operating in the area. Seasonal employment is found in reforestation and fire-fighting duties. Road construction and highway right-of-way clearing also provides employment opportunities. Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some members and are used mainly for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #40 is the main access to Grande Cache Lake Enterprises. About 5 kms. of internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in Hinton and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is the Grande Cache Airport which is paved and lighted. It is located near the Town of Grande Cache.

BUS SERVICE: Northways Bus Service offers daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines depot in Hinton.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from pumps. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power and the main sources of home heating are wood and diesel fuel. Some residents use electric cook-stoves.

RECREATION: There is a baseball diamond and an outdoor skating rink located in the community. Additional recreational facilities are available in the town of Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: Medical facilities are available in Grande Cache which has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Town of Grande Cache provides fire protection services.

POLICE: The Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Residents travel to Grande Cache for retail services.

Communications

CBC-Radio and a sister station of CJYR-Edson provide radio reception to this area. Television broadcast reception is from satellite-receiving dishes and CBC-TV. Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. The Grande Cache Mountaineer, Hinton Herald Parklander, Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Grande Cache Lake Enterprises is a limited partnership and is administered by General Partners who share in the management of the Enterprise equally.

Address: GRANDE CACHE LAKE ENTERPRISES
c/o Myles McDonald
Box 783
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

Federal and Provincial Government services are found in the town of Grande Cache.

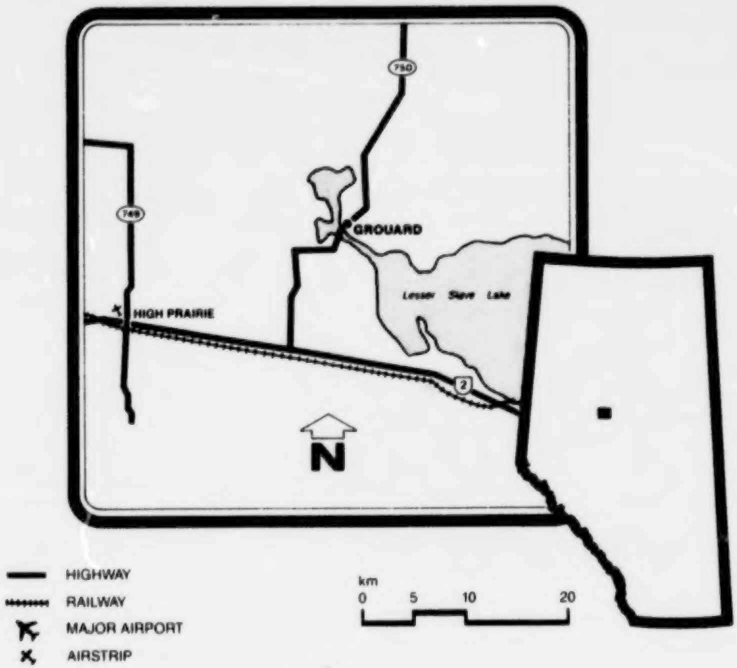
Other Organizations

There are numerous societies and committees in the Town of Grande Cache, including Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral Association and Native Counselling Services, that provide services to the residents of Grande Cache Lake Enterprises.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Grouard



Location

The hamlet of Grouard is located at the northwestern extremity of the Lesser Slave Lake, about 35 kms. northeast of High Prairie in Improvement District #17. Three Reserves of the Grouard Indian Band are located near the community and encompass about 444 hectares(1,098 acres).

History

The area surrounding the Lesser Slave Lake was a regular trading place for the fur traders on their way to and from their traplines. The North West Company was the first to establish a store, near Buffalo Bay, just north of Grouard. Eventually, other stores and services were established.

In 1909, the residents decided to re-name the site Grouard, in honor of Monsignor Grouard of the Roman Catholic Church, who was highly respected by the people.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Grouard to be 22 people residing in the hamlet and an additional 87 Band members residing on the nearby Reserves.

Economic Base

The economy of Grouard is based on agriculture, tourism and oil exploration in the area.

The Reserve lands are capable of supporting family gardens and small animal industries.

The Hilliards Bay Provincial Park, located about seven kms. east of Grouard, offers the potential for tourism. A beach development has over-night camping facilities, boating and fishing opportunities.

Seismic and oil activity in the area offer some employment opportunities.

The Alberta Vocational Centre in Grouard also employs some residents.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2, running east/west along the Lesser Slave Lake, and secondary Highway #750 lead to Grouard. All internal roads are either paved or gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot, operated by the Canadian National Railway, is located in High Prairie.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in High Prairie, about 35 kms. south of Grouard.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines operates a depot in High Prairie. Spendiff Transport provides daily freight and passenger service from Grouard to High Prairie.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the Lesser Slave Lake, pressure filtered, treated for iron removal and distributed through a pipe system. Sewage disposal is by detention lagoons. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Piped natural gas, propane and wood are the main sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a baseball diamond and an outdoor skating rink. In the summer months, the rink is transformed into tennis courts. The school and Alberta Vocational Centre gymnasiums are also utilized for after school and family recreation. Hilliard's Bay, six kms. distant, provides additional recreational facilities.

Education

SCHOOLS: A school in Grouard, operated by the Northlands School Division, offers kindergarten to grade nine. Pre-secondary and secondary students are boarded in major centres to complete their education. Grouard has an Alberta Vocational Centre, and an extension division in High Prairie, for additional courses.

Services

HEALTH: Medical care is provided by a resident public health nurse. The Kapown Centre for drug and alcohol rehabilitation is located in the community. Additional medical service is available in High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: Grouard has a resident 12-man volunteer fire brigade with one pumper unit.

POLICE: This community is served by the High Prairie R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is a general store located in Grouard. A gas station, post office and arcade/confectionary are housed in one unit.

Communications

Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Peace River, Camrose and Edmonton. Television reception is provided by CBC, ITV and CFRN. Newspaper services are from High Prairie, Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta.

Government

LOCAL: Grouard is represented on the Improvement District #17 Advisory Council.

There is also a Grouard Community Council located in the hamlet.

Address: GROUARD COMMUNITY COUNCIL
General Delivery,
Grouard, Alberta
T0G 1C0

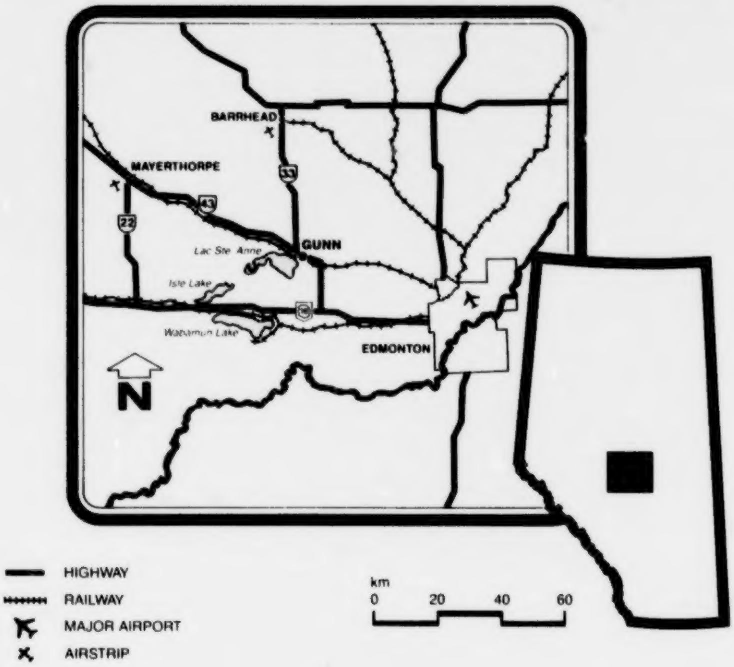
Other Organizations

Local #161 of the Metis Association of Alberta is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Gunn



Location

The hamlet of Gunn lies on the north shore of Lac Ste. Anne, approximately 72 kms. west of Edmonton. It is located in Improvement District #13.

History

Most of the present residents are descendents of the Iroquois and Cree Indian Nations.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Gunn to be 79 people.

Economic Base

The primary economic activity in the area is agriculture. The major crops grown in this area are wheat, barley and oats.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Gunn is primary Highway #43. The internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in Edmonton.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrips are located in Barrhead and Mayerthorpe.

BUS SERVICE: A depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located just outside of the community adjacent to Highway #43.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Trans-Alta Utilities provides electrical service to the residents of Gunn. Water is obtained from individual wells. Natural gas is the main source of home heating. Sewage disposal is by septic tanks and fields.

RECREATION: Gunn is situated on the shores of Lac Ste. Anne. Many outdoor recreation activities are available. including fishing, boating, hiking and camping.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten to grade six students are bussed to schools in Rich Valley. Pre-secondary and secondary students attend schools in Onoway. These schools are under the administration of the County of Lac Ste. Anne School Division.

Services

HEALTH: Medical care is available from hospitals located in Stoney Mountain and Barrhead. Ota

Witgetak, a Senior Citizen's home operated by Alberta Housing, is located in the community.

FIRE PROTECTION: A volunteer fire brigade located in Onoway serves this area.

POLICE: The Stony Plain R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

A restaurant, gas station and trailer park are the main commercial services in the community. Additional retail services are available in Stony Plain.

Communications

Edmonton radio and television broadcast reception is received in the community. Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones under the Edmonton Exchange. The Barrhead Leader, Onoway Tribune and Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Gunn is represented on Improvement District #13 Advisory Council and is under the jurisdiction of the County of Lac Ste. Anne. An elected Reeve and six Councillors administer the area.

Address: THE HAMLET OF GUNN
Box 209
Sangudo, Alberta
T0E 2A0

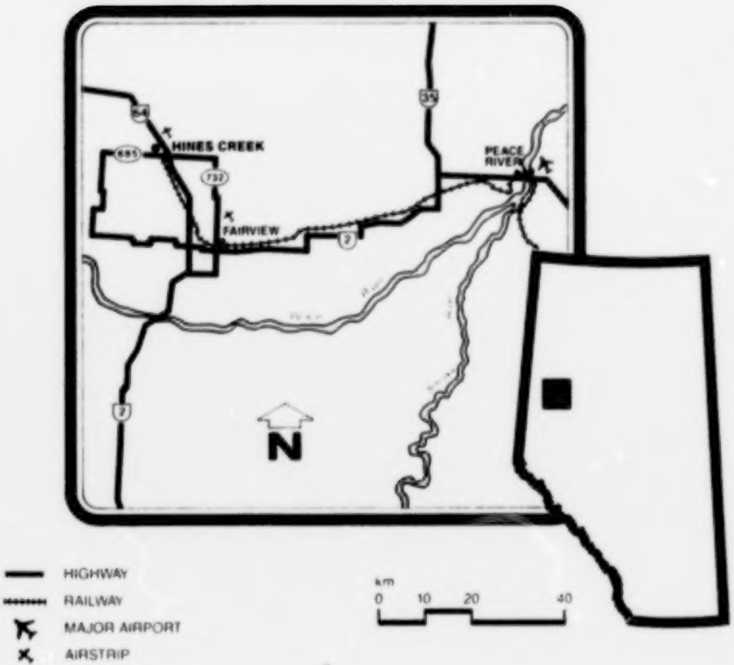
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #155 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Hines Creek



Location

The Village of Hines Creek is located approximately 80 kms. west of the town of Peace River. It is located in Improvement District #21.

History

The early settlers to this area were ranchers who were attracted by the natural pastures and grassy meadows. Ranches were established in 1917. Mr. Peterson, a prominant citizen, built the first hotel in Hines Creek in 1932. Residents experienced a serious forest fire in 1982 which burned 48,582 hectares (120,000 acres) of forest.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Hines Creek to be 575 people.

Economic Base

The economy of Hines Creek is based on agriculture, forestry, mineral deposits, oil exploration and tourism.

The economic base is directly tied to agriculture and the related spin-off business it generates.

Forestry production has also added to its revenue. The CANFOR Sawmill employs 100 people on a regular basis. Proctor and Gamble hauls wood chips from the area for use in sawmills and pulpmills in Grande Prairie. A serious forest fire in 1982 burned 48,582 hectares (120,000 acres) of forest cover and hampered production capabilities.

The development of iron-ore deposits in the Clear Hills area, 40 kms. north of Hines Creek, is believed to be the largest in Western Canada. It will have a direct and beneficial influence on the local economy.

Coal, oil and gas exploration is taking place and looks promising.

Equipment sales and services and the retail business offers employment to the local residents.

Hines Creek is located in one of Alberta's most popular tourist areas and offers hunting, fishing and camping.

Hines Creek also has a commercial honey operation.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Hines Creek is located at the junction of Primary Highway #64 and secondary Highway #685. All internal roads are paved.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot in the Village of Hines Creek.

AIRPORT: Hines Creek has a 590 metre (2,000 foot) grass landing strip for light aircraft. The nearest paved and lighted landing strip is located in Fairview, 32 kms. south of Hines Creek.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers freight and passenger service twice daily.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All modern utility services are available in Hines Creek, including natural gas, electricity, piped water and sewage systems.

RECREATION: Facilities include a covered arena which houses a curling rink. Additional facilities include a community hall, baseball diamonds, an arts and crafts hall and a golf course.

Education

SCHOOLS: Hines Creek has two schools offering grades one to six and seven to 12 respectively. The schools are under the administration of the Fairview School Division. The nearest colleges are located at Fairview and Grande Prairie.

Services

HEALTH: Hines Creek has a visiting public health nurse from the Fairview Health Unit. Additional medical services are available in Fairview which has a 40-bed hospital and five doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: Hines Creek has a fire-hall, two pumper units and a 16-man volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Village is served by an R.C.M.P. Detachment from Fairview.

Commercial Activity

The Royal Bank of Canada maintains a branch office in Hines Creek. There are two grocery stores and one convenience store, two hardware and clothing stores, a post office, two bulk gas stations and one service station, a body shop, a hotel/restaurant unit and an arcade in Hines Creek.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone service. Radio CJXX, CKYL-Peace River and CFGP-Grande Prairie are received. CBC-TV and CTV are transmitted to this area. There are also individual satellite-receiving dishes. The Fairview Post and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Village of Hines Creek was incorporated in December 1951. It is administered by a Mayor and three Councillors.

Address: The VILLAGE of HINES CREEK
Box 412
Hines Creek, Alberta
T0H 2A0

PROVINCIAL: Energy and Natural Resources (Alberta Forest Service), Transportation (Equipment Repair).

FEDERAL: Post Office

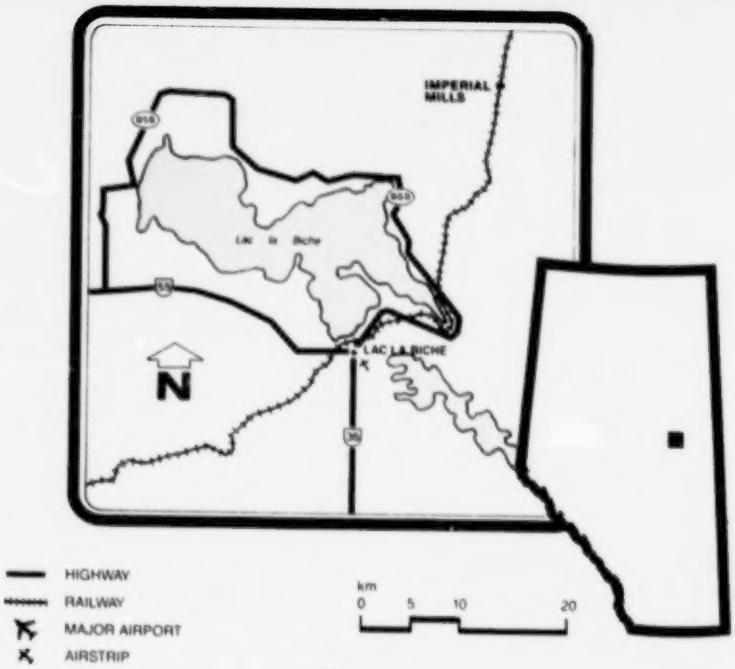
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #151 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Imperial Mills



Location

The hamlet of Imperial Mills is located on the Canadian National Railway line approximately 35 kms. northeast of Lac La Biche. It is located in Improvement District #18.

History

Imperial Mills was an identifiable Native community before the lumber company built a sawmill there. It was named after the Imperial Lumber Company plant which was operating in the area in 1949. The population of the hamlet at that time was 105 people. In 1982, the sawmill was re-located to Lac La Biche. Consequently, most of the people who depended on the mill for their livelihood, moved for economic reasons.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 58 people residing in the community.

Economic Base

The economic base for the community, since the sawmill re-located, is primarily based on seasonal work in the forest industry. Temporary employment is found in fire-fighting and slashing activities. Some of the residents hunt and trap to supplement their income.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Imperial Mills is secondary Highway #868 leading from Lac La Biche. The internal roads are gravel, dirt roads and trails.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway provides passenger and freight service twice a week from a depot located in the community.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Lac La Biche.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Lac La Biche.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from wells or is hauled in. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. Homes are heated by oil or wood.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Lac La Biche.

Services

HEALTH: Residents travel to Lac La Biche for health services which are supplied by the Athabasca Health Unit.

FIRE PROTECTION: The community has an arrangement with Alberta Forest Service to supply emergency fire protection.

POLICE: The community is served by the Lac La Biche R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Residents travel to Lac La Biche for these services.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio reception is from St. Paul and Camrose. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper is available to the residents.

Government

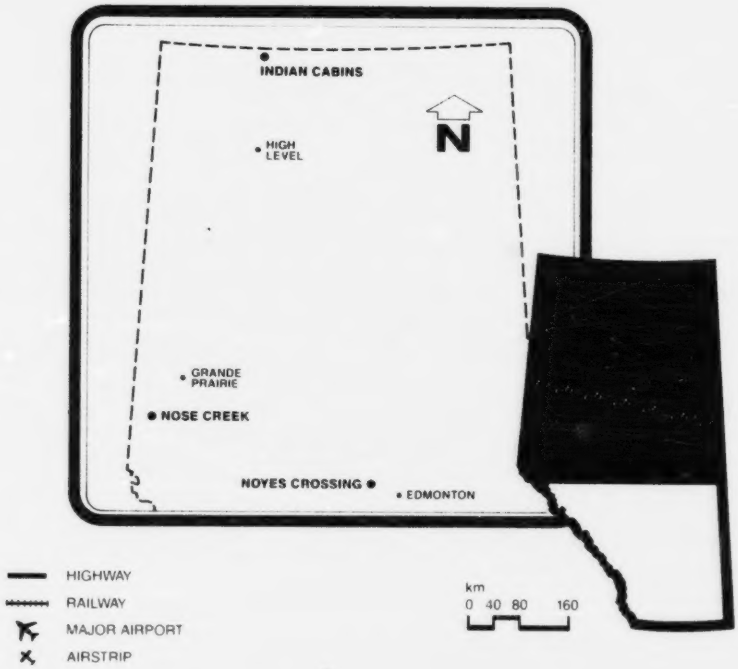
LOCAL: The community is part of Advisory Council Division #18.

Address: Improvement District #18
General Delivery
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Indian Cabins/Nose Creek/Noyes Crossing



Indian Cabins

Indian Cabins is located 15 kms. south of the North West Territories/Alberta border. It is in Improvement District #23, off Highway #35.

A 1985 source indicated approximately 15 people residing in the community. All internal roads are gravelled. Transportation services are provided by the Canadian National Railway and Greyhound Bus Lines.

Children are bussed to Steen River for grades one to nine. Students in secondary grades attend schools in High Level. The schools are under the administration of Fort Vermilion School Division #52.

Services such as medical, policing, fire protection are located in High Level.

A gas station, motel and restaurant are located in the community.

Some residents receive television broadcast reception from privately-owned satellite dishes.

Indian Cabins is represented on Advisory Council Division #7 in Improvement District #23.

Nose Creek

Nose Creek is located approximately 91 kms. southwest of Grande Prairie. The present location of the settlement is in a flood plain area. There is a seasonal variation of approximately 40 to 70 residents of Native descent.

Employment consists mainly of trapping and limited timber and oilfield work.

Water is obtained from the river. The main source of home heating is wood.

Students in pre-secondary grades attend school in Grovedale and students in secondary grades commute to High Level.

Portable fire protection is supplied by Improvement District #16.

Telephone communication is provided by a mobile telephone.

Nose Creek is represented on Advisory Council Division #8 in Improvement District #16.

Noyes Crossing

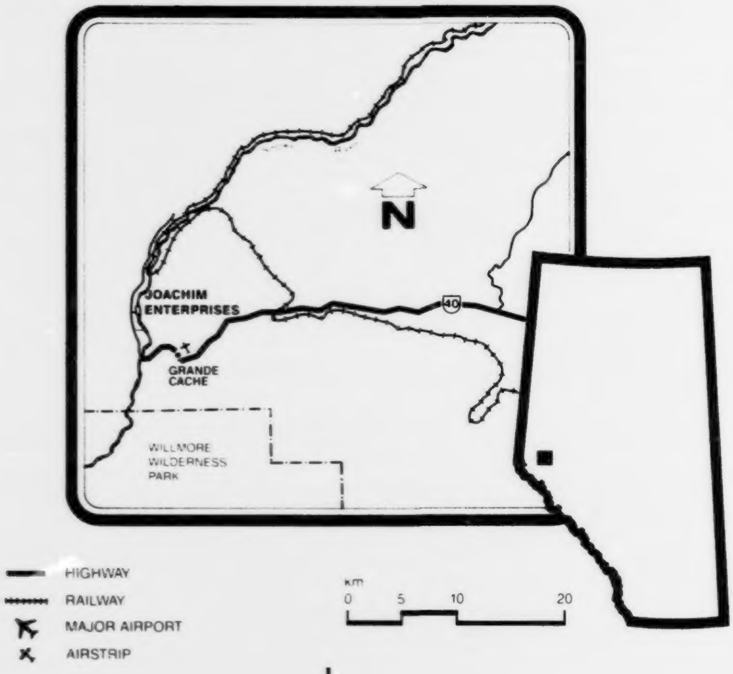
Noyes Crossing is a residential Alberta Housing sub-division located approximately 20 kms. north of Spruce Grove. It is at the junction of secondary Highways #635 and #779 in county #28.

There are 10-12 homes in the community. The homes have propane heating, electricity and indoor plumbing. Services such as policing, hospital, ambulance, fire protection, school and commercial services for this area are provided by Spruce Grove or Edmonton.

Comments

NATIVE AFFAIRS

Joachim Enterprises



Location

Joachim Enterprises is located about 5 kms. north of the Town of Grande Cache in Improvement District #16. The Smoky River runs through this area. Joachim Enterprises encompasses about 102 hectares (257 acres).

History

The Smoky River was once used as the main water route for explorers, hunting parties and settlers. Generations of Native people have resided along its banks. In 1911, Jasper National Park was established and the Native people who resided in that region moved to the area surrounding what is presently the Town of Grande Cache.

In 1974, the Provincial Government granted 102 hectares (257 acres) of land to Joachim Enterprises on the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source indicates the population of Joachim Enterprises to be 14 people. Residents of Joachim Enterprises are a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestry.

Economic Base

Members of Joachim Enterprises find employment in coal-related activities with Smoky River Coal which is operating in the area.

Cutting, slashing and clearing for the Department of Highways and individual logging crews also provide employment opportunities.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #40 is the main access to Joachim Enterprises. Internal driveways are gravel.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Hinton and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The Grande Cache Airport, located just north of the Town, offers air service to Joachim Enterprises.

BUS SERVICE: Northway Bus Service offers daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines depot in Hinton.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILTIES: Water is obtained from individual pumps. Alberta Power provides electrical services. The main home heating source is wood.

RECREATION: Full recreational facilities are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in the Town of Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: Medical facilities are available in the Town of Grande Cache, which has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Grande Cache volunteer fire brigade offers fire protection service to Joachim Enterprises.

POLICE: Protection services are provided by the Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activities

Full retail services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Communications

Radio reception is from a sister station of CJYR-Edson. Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Newspaper service is provided by the Grande Cache Mountaineer, Hinton Hearld Parklander, Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta.

Government

LOCAL: Joachim Enterprises is a limited partnership and is administered by General Partners who share in the management of the Enterprise equally.

The area is also represented on the Improvement District #16 Advisory Council.

Address: JOACHIM ENTERPRISES
c/o Alice Joachim
Box 1183
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

Federal and Provincial Government services are available in the town of Grande Cache.

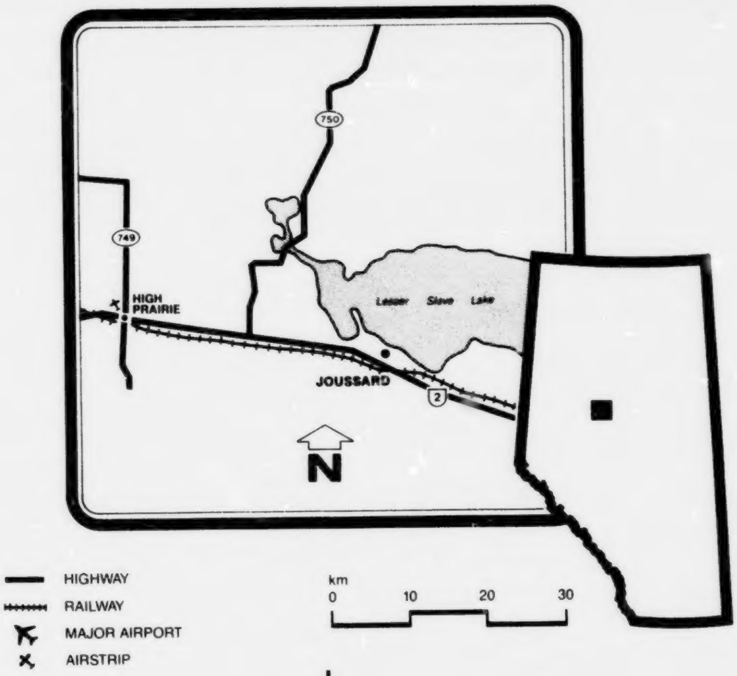
Other Organizations

There are numerous committees and societies in the Town of Grande Cache which offer services to the residents of Joachim Enterprises, including Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral Association and Native Counselling Services.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Joussard



Location

The hamlet of Joussard is situated 35 kms. east of the Town of High Prairie on the south shore of the Lesser Slave Lake. It is located in Improvement District #17.

History

The area around Joussard was once an important centre for traders, explorers and settlers. It was also a gathering place for Indian and Metis people and was the site of a Roman Catholic Mission which served the surrounding areas.
It was originally called Indianna but was later renamed after Bishop Joussard.

Population

A 1981 census has indicated the population of this community to be 330 people.

Economic Base

The residents of Joussard derive their income mainly from commercial fishing in the Lesser Slave Lake. A commercial packing plant, the West End Fish Producers and Packers Ltd., is located in Joussard.

Agricultural activity consists of mixed farming operations.

Hunting and trapping activities are done by some residents and are used mainly for domestic purposes.

Most employment opportunities are found outside of the community.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 runs east/west past the southern extremity of Joussard. About 2 kms. of paved road leads to the community. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: Freight service is provided twice weekly by the Canadian National Railway from a depot in Enilda.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located 35 kms. west in High Prairie.

BUS SERVICE: Daily service is provided by Greyhound Bus Lines from a depot located in one of the general stores in the community.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the Lesser Slave Lake and stored in a reservoir. Most homes have plumbing and sewage facilities. Alberta Power provides electricity to all residents. Natural gas is the main source of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a skating rink, a community hall, baseball diamonds, a creative playground, parks and a camping/picnic area.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten to grade nine is offered in Joussard. Pre-secondary and secondary students attend schools in High Prairie. The schools are administered by the High Prairie School Division #48.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits monthly. Additional medical services are available in High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a volunteer fire brigade, fire hall and a pumper unit located in the community.

POLICE: The Faust R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Joussard has a general store, a confectionary, two gas stations, a community hall, and a post office. The fish-packing plant is also located here. Additional retail services are available in High Prairie and Slave Lake.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Peace River, Camrose and Edmonton. CBC-TV, CFRN and cable television are also received. The South Peace News, Slave Lake Leader/Scope, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and the Edmonton dailies provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The area is represented on Improvement District #17 Advisory Council.

Address: IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #17
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 0E0

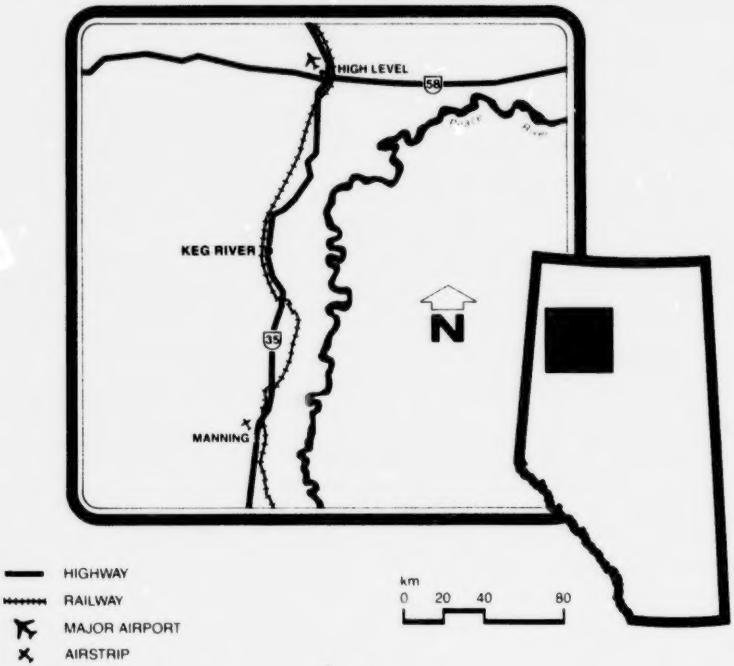
Other Organizations

Also present in the community is Metis Association of Alberta Local #148, the Joussard Area Development and the Homesteaders — a senior citizens organization.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Keg River



Location

Keg River is located about 96 kms. southwest of High Level and 100 kms. north of the Town of Manning. It is situated in Improvement District #22.

History

Located on the Chinchaga River, the Keg River Post was originally a Hudson Bay Company trading Post. It was located about 22 kms. from where it is presently situated.

Keg River has been a farming community since the early 1900's. Doctor Mary Jackson and her husband were the first settlers to arrive in the early 1920's.

This area was known as the jump off spot since there was nothing between Notikewan and Keg River.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Keg River to be 49 people residing in the hamlet. There are about 393 people in the surrounding area.

Economic Base

The economy of Keg River is based primarily on agriculture. Grain farming is the primary activity with barley, wheat and oats being the major crops.

There is some oil activity west of Keg River.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Keg River is Highway #35. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: Freight services are available to Keg River from Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: A 1,333 metre (4,000 foot) paved airstrip is located in the Town of Manning.

BUS SERVICE: A depot, operated by the Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in the community.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Alberta Power supplies electrical service to the community. Natural gas and propane are the main sources of home heating. Water is obtained from individual wells.

RECREATION: There are baseball diamonds and a community hall for social functions. A Recreation Board and library are also located in the community.

Education

SCHOOLS: Keg River is administered by Northland School Division #1. Grades one to nine are offered in the community. Students in grades 10 to 12 attend secondary schools in Manning or High Level.

Services

HEALTH: Residents commute to High Level or Manning to receive medical attention.

FIRE PROTECTION: Keg River is served by the Manning Fire Department.

POLICE: The High Level R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

A gas station and grocery store serve the residents of Keg River. Retail and government services are available in Manning.

Communications

CBC and CTV television are received in Keg River. Radio stations include CKYL-Peace River, CFGP-Grande Prairie and marginal reception of some Edmonton stations. Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones. The Manning Banner Post, High Level Echo, and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services

Government

LOCAL: Keg River is represented on Improvement District #22 Advisory Council.

Address: IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT #22
(KEG RIVER)
Bag 900, Box 30
Peace River, Alberta
T0H 2X0

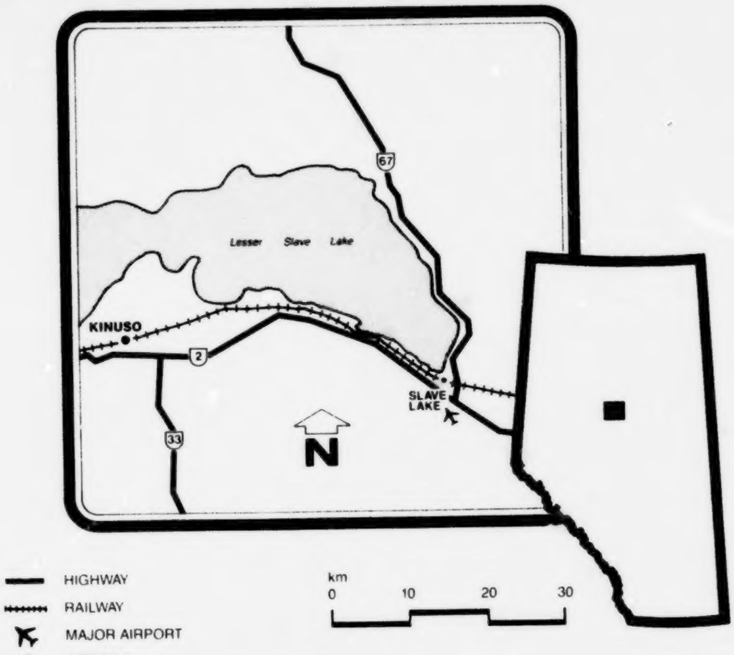
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #181 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Kinuso



Location

The Village of Kinuso is located just south of the midway point of the Lesser Slave Lake approximately 55 kms. west of the Town of Slave Lake. It is situated in Improvement District #17 and encompasses an area of 8,162 hectares (20,161 acres).

History

Native people in Kinuso have ancestral ties with historical Metis and the Woodland Cree Indian Nation.

The first settlers to Kinuso arrived in horse or oxen-drawn wagons. Originally, the town was called Swan River, but for postal reasons, the name was changed to Kinuso, a Cree word meaning "fish".

In 1914, the railroad came through and enhanced access to this area considerably. The Royal Bank established a branch in 1921. At that time, numerous restaurants, grocery stores and hotels were built to accommodate the influx of people to this area.

Population

A 1981 census indicated approximately 285 people.

Economic Base

The major economic activity in the area is agriculture. The main crops are canola, barley and forage crops. Cattle-raising has increased due to the closing down of Kinuso's grain elevators to accommodate the centralization of grain delivery to the Town of High Prairie.

The forestry impact on the area has diminished due to take-overs of small operations by large companies from the Slave Lake and Swan Hills areas, however, this type of activity continues on a smaller scale. There is an Alberta Forest Ranger station located in the community.

Some residents are employed in the gas and oil industry as exploration increases.

Kinuso offers outdoor recreation and tourist facilities. The Spruce Point Park camping and picnic area is a joint venture by Kinuso and Faust. The annual rodeo is held here each July Ist weekend and includes a fastball tournament. An annual Agricultural Day is also held here.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 is the main access to Kinuso. All internal roads are gravelled and the main street is paved.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in Slave Lake.

AIRPORT: The closest paved and lighted airport is in the Town of Slave Lake.

BUS SERVICE: The Greyhound Bus Lines offers freight and passenger service twice daily from a depot located in the community.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All modern utilities are available in Kinuso including treated water, which is obtained from the Swan River, and a piped sewage system. The main home heating source is natural gas.

RECREATION: An agricultural complex which houses a curling rink, community hall, museum and library has recently been constructed. There are two other community halls, baseball diamonds and an outdoor skating rink. The school gymnasium is utilized for family and after-school outings.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kinuso has one school which offers kindergarten to grade 12. The school is under the administration of the High Prairie School Division. A Community Vocational Centre is located in Kinuso.

Services

HEALTH: The Athabasca Health Unit maintains an office in Kinuso. The nearest hospitals are located in the Towns of Slave Lake and High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a volunteer fire brigade with one pumper unit which services a 20 km. radius.

POLICE: The Faust R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

The Royal Bank has established an office in Kinuso. Additional banking transactions are done in Slave Lake or High Prairie. There is a general store, a hardware store, a restaurant/hotel unit and a post office located in Kinuso. The Department of Highways has a maintenance yard near the community. Kinuso serves as a retail centre for Faust and the Swan River and Driftpile Reserves.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides private and party-line telephone service. Radio stations are CKYL-Peace River, CFCW-Camrose and various Edmonton stations. CBC-TV also broadcasts here. The Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

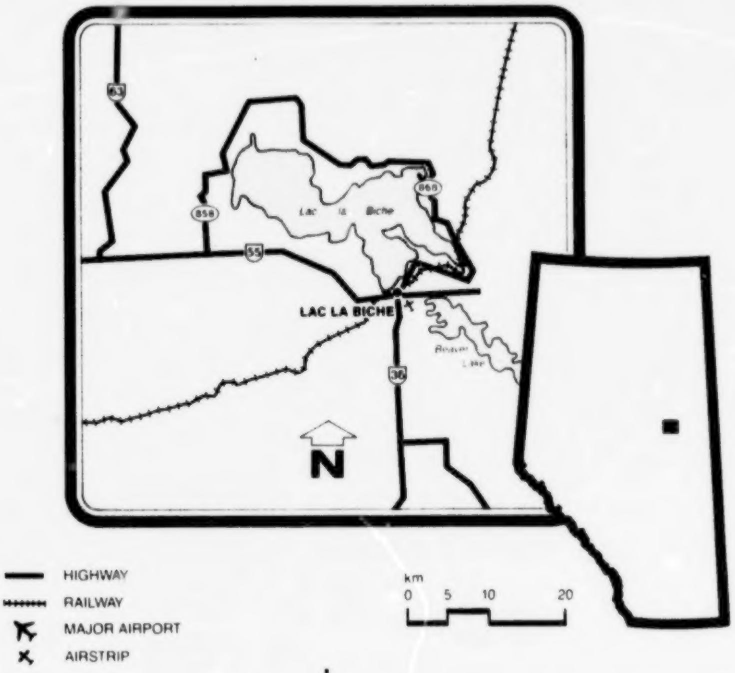
LOCAL: The Village of Kinuso is administered by a Mayor and two Councillors.

Address: The VILLAGE of KINUSO
Box 57
Kinuso, Alberta
T0G IK0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Lac La Biche



Location

The Town of Lac La Biche is located 225 kms. northeast of Edmonton in Alberta's Lakeland District. It is situated in Improvement District #18.

History

Lac La Biche was named by French trappers who travelled in the area in the 1790's. It became a significant trading post in the mid-1800's when a Catholic Mission was built and settlers began to move into the area to farm and trap. In those days, goods for the northern trading posts came by portage to Lac La Biche and were transported along the Clearwater and Christina Rivers to Fort McMurray.

Louis Forseneuve opened a newer and faster route through the Grande Rapids on the Athabasca River. This route was used until Edmonton and Fort McMurray were linked by the Alberta and Grandtrunk Waterways Railway. Lac La Biche is the second oldest settlement in Alberta.

Population

A 1984 source indicated approximately 2,069 people in Lac La Biche.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Lac La Biche area depends on the oil and gas industry, fishing and agriculture. Government services are a major employer. Tourism and oil field service industries provided a boost to the local economy.

The Lac La Biche Fisherman's Co-Op is one of the largest suppliers of fresh-water fish in the province.

There are some mixed-farming ventures and some individually-owned mink ranches.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #55 is the main access route into Lac La Biche. Secondary Highway #36 runs south to Vilna. Internal roads are mainly paved.

RAILWAY: There is a Canadian National Railway depot in the Town.

AIRPORT: There is a paved and lighted airstrip in Lac La Biche with helicopter facilities.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily passenger and freight service.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All modern utility services are available in the Town of Lac La Biche.

RECREATION: Lac La Biche has a complete range of recreational facilities including an arena, curling rinks, outdoor and indoor tennis courts, baseball diamonds and school gymnasiums. The Winston Churchill Park is located nearby. There is also a beach development on Lac La Biche Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: Lac La Biche has two elementary and two high schools administered by the Lac La Biche School Division #51. The Town also has an Alberta Vocational Centre which provides educational and up-grading programs.

Services

HEALTH: The Town has a 100-bed hospital. It also has a medical clinic with four doctors, one dental clinic, and the Athabasca Health Unit which includes environmental health inspection services, a speech therapist, a home care program, senior citizens' lodge and community health nursing.

FIRE PROTECTION: Lac La Biche has a volunteer fire department, a fire hall and two pumper trucks.

POLICE: The Town is served by a resident R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

The Town has commercial activities associated with an urban community. The Beaver Lake Minimum Security Camp is located about 6 kms. from the town.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton and surrounding communities. Additional television channels are provided by Lacsat. The Lac La Biche Post, Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspapers are also available.

Government

LOCAL: The Town is governed by a Mayor and six Councillors.

Address: The TOWN of LAC LA BICHE
Box 387
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0

PROVINCIAL: Provincial representation includes: Alberta Agriculture, Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), Energy and Natural Resources, Municipal Affairs (ID #18), Parks and Recreation, Transportation (District Engineer), Social Services and Community Health, Solicitor General (Community Corrections).

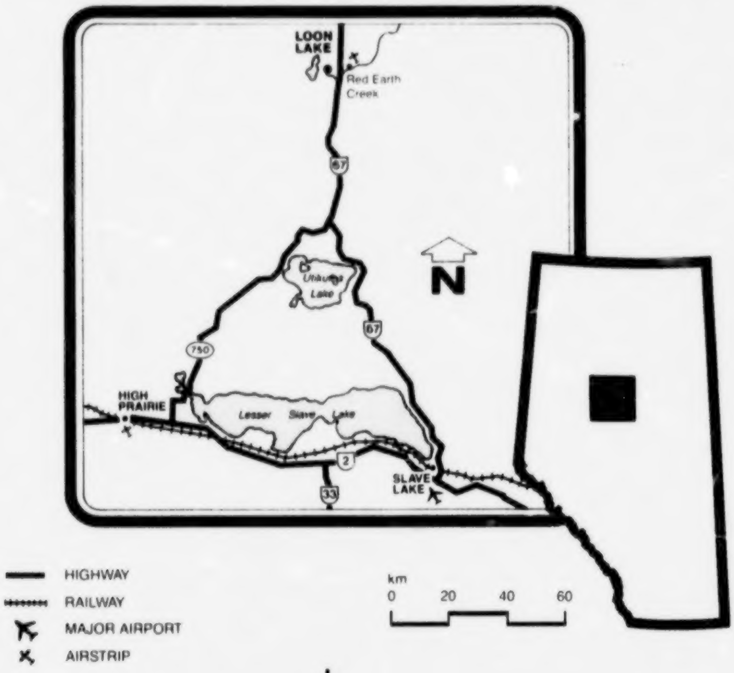
FEDERAL: Federal representation includes: R.C.M.P., Health and Welfare, Beaver Lake Health Services, Post Office.

Other Organizations

There is a Metis Association of Alberta Local #115, the Native Women's Association, Metis National Council and other community organizations.

Comments

Loon Lake



Location

The community of Loon Lake is located 165 kms. directly north of the Lesser Slave Lake and about 10 kms. west of Red Earth Creek. It is situated on the east side of Loon Lake in Improvement District #17.

History

In the late 1700's, members of the Cree Indian Nation migrated into the region around the Loon, Peerless and Trout Lakes.

During the mid-1800's, the Red River Metis moved into the area with the fur-trade, closely followed by other entrepreneurs, trappers, lumbermen and prospectors.

The signing of Treaty #8 in 1899, paved the way for the settlement of areas with agricultural potential.

As the areas east and west of the Lesser Slave Lake and north along the Alaska Highway were settled, rapid growth, more advanced technology and resource development followed the course of least resistance. Consequently, the areas around Peerless and Trout Lake, which were relatively isolated, have only now begun to open up to development possibilities as accessibility increases.

Population

The community is comprised of Treaty, non-Treaty and Metis people. A 1981 census indicated the population to be about 208 people.

Economic Base

Most employment opportunities are found in nearby Red Earth Creek with oil and drilling rigs which are operating in the area.

The forestry industry offers employment on cutting and slashing crews working in the vicinity.

Road construction from Loon Lake to Fort Vermilion, Peace River and Slave Lake is also taking place.

Trapping and hunting activities are done by some members and are used mainly for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #67 leading to Loon Lake consists of all-weather gravel. There is also a winter road leading to Lubicon Lake. All internal roads are gravel or unimproved trails.

AIRPORT: Red Earth Creek, approximately 10 kms. east of Loon Lake, has a grass landing strip for light aircraft. The nearest paved and lighted airports are located in Slave Lake and Peace River. At present, there isn't any bus, truck or rail service to Loon Lake.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the Loon River and partially treated or from individual wells in the community. The school and teacherages have running water and indoor plumbing. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are oil, wood and propane.

RECREATION: Facilities for public recreation include an outdoor skating rink, a gymkhana corral and a baseball diamond. There is a community hall for social functions. The Community Vocational Centre rents part of the community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: A newly constructed school offers grades one to 10 and is under the administration of the Northland School Division. Secondary students attend schools in either Grouard or High Prairie. Loon Lake has a Community Vocational Centre for adult education and technical courses.

Services

HEALTH: Public health services are provided by a visiting nurse and doctor from Slave Lake and High Prairie. Additional medical services can be obtained from the Towns of Slave Lake and High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: Portable pumps are available to the community and volunteers have undertaken a training program for the operation of such.

POLICE: Protection services are provided by an R.C.M.P. Detachment from Red Earth Creek.

Commercial Activity

Loon Lake has a small grocery and confectionary store. Additional retail services can be found in Red Earth Creek, High Prairie or in Slave Lake.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service to Loon Lake residents. Radio CKYL-Peace River and marginal reception of some Edmonton stations are received. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the South Peace News provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Loon Lake has a Community Association.

Address: LOON LAKE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Red Earth Creek, Alberta
T0G 1X0

PROVINCIAL: Services to this area are: Family and Community Support Services (Home Maker's, Program, Youth Program) and Social Services and Community Health.

FEDERAL: The nearest post office is located in Red Earth Creek.

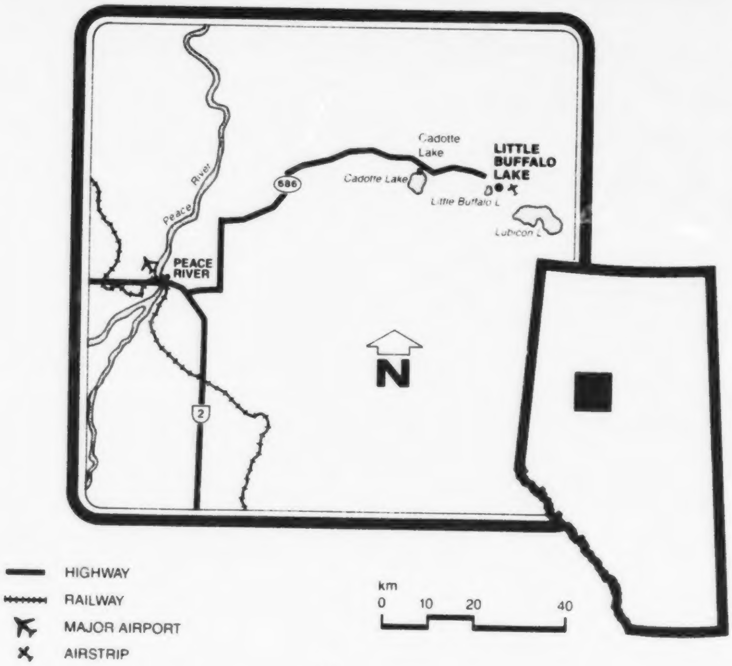
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #223 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Little Buffalo



Location

The community of Little Buffalo is located approximately 100 kms. northeast of the Town of Peace River and 35 kms. east of Cadotte Lake. It is located in Improvement District #17.

Population

The population of this community is about 317 people and includes members of the Lubicon Lake Indian Band.

Economic Base

Oil development in the area has potential and drilling is taking place. Gas exploration also looks promising.

Horses are being raised for outfitting and guiding purposes. Seasonal employment is offered in the form of fire-fighting and reforestation projects.

Temporary employment is found in short-term job creation projects.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #686, an all-weather gravel road, is the main access to the communities. All internal roads are gravel.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Peace River and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: Little Buffalo has a grass landing strip for light aircraft. The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Peace River.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Peace River and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from individual wells or creeks in the area. There is also a central community pumphouse. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are wood and oil.

RECREATION: Little Buffalo has a community hall for social functions, an outdoor skating rink and a baseball diamond.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school in the community which offers grades one to eight. The school is under the administration of the Peace River School Division. Students in secondary grades attend schools in Peace River. There is a Community Vocational Centre for up-grading and technical courses.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse from the Peace River Health Unit visits the communities. Medical services are available in Peace River which has a 71-bed hospital and 10 doctors.

POLICE: The Peace River R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

A small confectionary store in Little Buffalo Lake stocks canned and dry goods, various articles of clothing and gasoline. Additional retail services are offered in Peace River.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio CKYL-Peace River and various Edmonton radio broadcasts are received. Television reception is CBC, CBC-French and marginal reception of CTV. The Peace River Record Gazette and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: There is the Little Buffalo Lake Community Association.

Address: LITTLE BUFFALO LAKE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
Box 2864
Peace River, Alberta
T0H 2X0

The Lubicon Lake Indian Band is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

Address: LUBICON LAKE INDIAN BAND
Box 2864
Peace River, Alberta
T0H 2X0

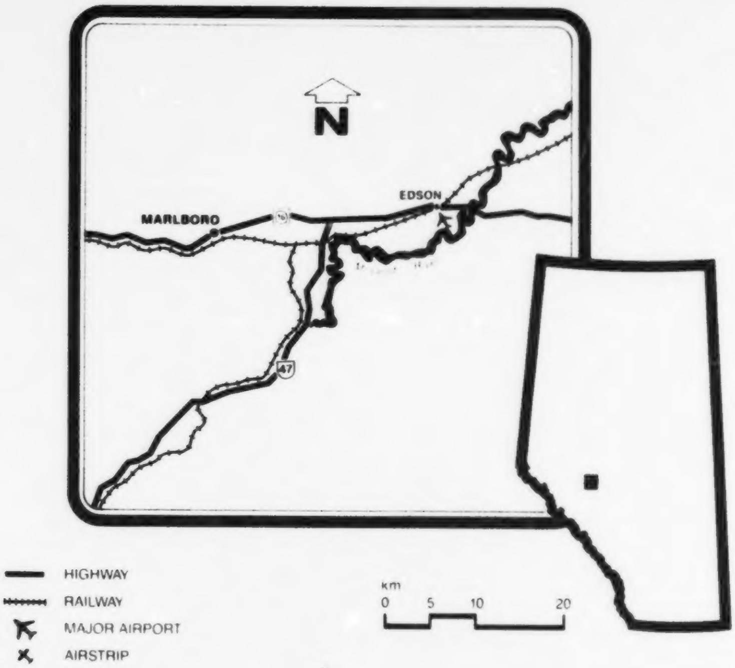
Other Organizations

Also present in the community are the Puskwow Moostos Weskayigan Society and Metis Association of Alberta Local #301.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Marlboro



Location

The community of Marlboro is located approximately 24 kms. west of the Town of Edson on Highway #16. It is situated in Improvement District #14.

History

In 1913, Portland Cement opened a cement plant at Marlboro. The existing plan of subdivision was registered in that same year to provide lots for employee residences.

The plant closed in 1930 and the people relocated to seek employment. The smoke-stack from the plant is still standing and can be seen from Highway #16.

Population

A 1981 census indicated the population of Marlboro to be 211 people.

Economic Base

Some agricultural activity, such as farming, is present in Marlboro, but is used mainly for domestic purposes.

Some residents find work on logging crews which are operating in the area. Nearby oil rigs are also a source of employment.

Obed Mountain Coal offers work in their newly constructed coal production facility.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Yellowhead Highway is the main access to Marlboro. Internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located 24 kms. east in Edson, and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Edson.

BUS SERVICE: Flag-stop bus service is available from Greyhound Bus Lines. The nearest depot is located in Edson.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is available to this community from Alberta Power. Natural gas and wood are the main sources of home heating. Water is obtained from wells. Alberta Housing operates a small water system which services 10 lots.

RECREATION: Facilities include an asphalt-base rink and playground. A newly renovated community hall and numerous baseball diamonds serve as additional sources of recreation.

Education

SCHOOL: Pre-secondary and post-secondary students are bussed to schools in Edson which are operated by the Yellowhead School Division.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits the community once a month. The nearest medical facilities are located in Edson and Hinton.

FIRE PROTECTION: A new fire hall is presently under construction and is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 1985.

POLICE: The Edson R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Commercial services are available in Edson and Hinton.

Communications

Television broadcast reception is provided by some Edmonton television stations and some individually owned satellite-receiving dishes. Edson, Edmonton and Camrose radio stations are received here. Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. The Edson Leader, Edson Report, Hinton Herald Parklander, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, and Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: Marlboro is located in Improvement District #14.

Address: Improvement District #14
Box 2724
Edson, Alberta
T0E 0P0

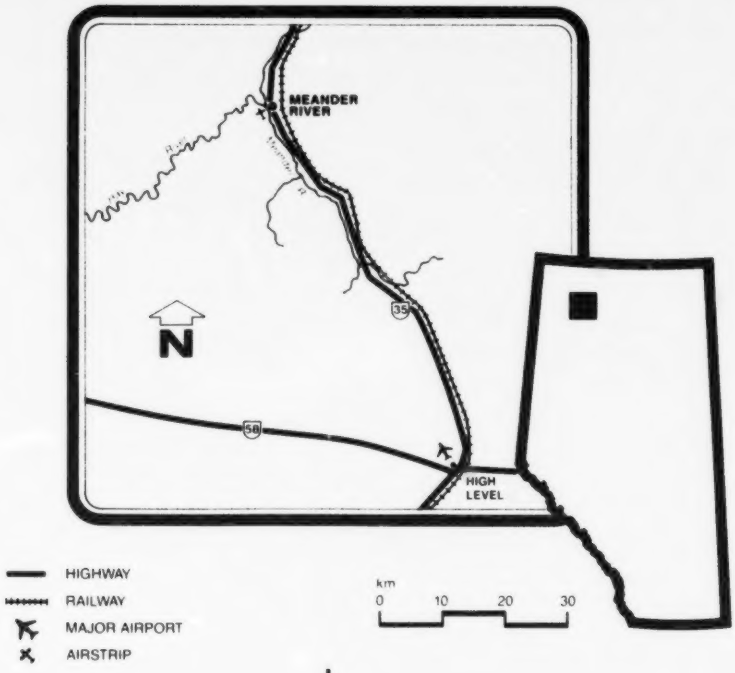
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #174 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Meander River



Location

The Meander River Reserve is located approximately 71 kms. north of the Town of High Level. It lies on the east banks of the Meander and Hay Rivers and on the west side of the MacKenzie Highway and encompasses an area of 1,418 hectares (3,504 acres). It is located in Improvement District #17.

History

Members of the Meander River Reserve are descendants of the Slavey Indian Nation who are the most northerly in Alberta. Their traditional hunting grounds extended well into the North West Territories.

The first contact between Slavey Indians and Europeans probably happened around 1778 when a trading post was established at Lake Athabasca. In 1899, the Canadian government negotiated Treaty #8 at Fort Vermilion. Adhesion to Treaty #8 was signed the following year.

Population

A 1984 source indicated 320 people.

Economic Base

Most of the members find employment outside the Reserve in nearby High Level and Fort Vermilion.

Some work is found with sawmills operating in the region.

Heavy duty construction and road building are also a source of employment.

Within the Reserve, temporary employment is found building houses.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities have declined in recent years, but are still done by some Band members.

The area's scenic beauty has tourism potential.

The Ta-Che Native Arts and Crafts manufactures and sells hand-made crafts.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #35 runs past the Reserve. All internal roads are gravel.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot in High Level for freight service.

AIRPORT: The Reserve has a grass landing strip. The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in High Level.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines provides daily service from a depot in High Level.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: The Band has recently completed construction of a piped water system to distribute water to most residents. A new sewage disposal system is in the planning stages. Electricity is supplied to about half the homes on the Reserve from Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are oil and wood.

RECREATION: Facilities include an outdoor skating rink, a baseball diamond, a pool room and the school gymnasium.

Education

SCHOOL: There is one school, under the administration of the Fort Vermilion School Division, which offers kindergarten to grade nine. Students in secondary grades are boarded out of the community to complete their education. Adult education courses are offered on the Reserve.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits regularly at a nursing station located on the Reserve. Medical services are available in High Level.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Band owns a garage which houses a fire-engine and grader operated by a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The High Level R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

There is a Hudson Bay store, a small confectionary and a Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development trailer located on the Reserve. Retail and banking services are available in High Level.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio CKYL-Peace River, Edmonton and northern British Columbia radio broadcasts are received. A satellite-receiving dish provides television reception. The High Level Echo and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Meander River Reserve is a member of the Dene Tha Indian Band. They are governed by a Chief and a Council of three Elders and three elected Councillors. The Dene Tha Band have a lifetime traditional Chief - Harry Colo-Chonkolay.

Address: DENE THA INDIAN BAND
Box 120
Chateh, Alberta
T0H 0S0

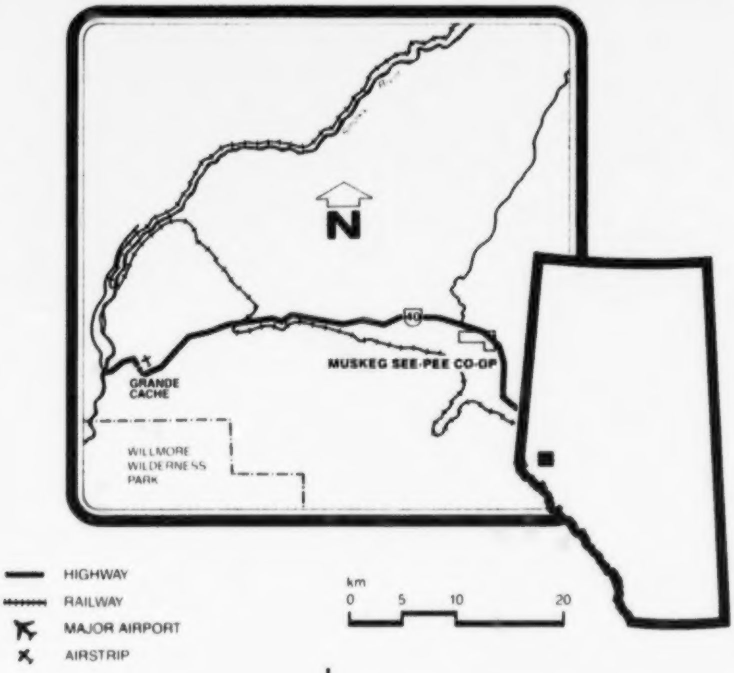
FEDERAL: The post office is located at Chateh on the Assumption Reserve.

Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #180 is also present in the community.

Comments

Muskeg See-Pee Co-Op



Location

The community of Muskeg is located about 27 kms. east of the Town of Grande Cache on both sides of Highway #40. The Muskeg River and the Pierre Grey Lakes are located nearby. The Willmore Provincial Park is located southwest of Muskeg. The Co-op covers about 54 hectares (135 acres) and is located in Improvement District #16.

History

Muskeg was established in 1911 when Jasper National Park was founded. The Native people who lived there re-located to the area around Grande Cache.

In 1974, the Muskeg Seepee Co-Operative Association was granted 54 hectares (135 acres) by the Alberta Provincial Government on the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source indicates there are 47 people living in Muskeg. The present residents of Muskeg are a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestry.

Economic Base

Most employment opportunities for the residents of Muskeg are of a seasonal nature.

British Columbia Forest Products offers employment with their planer and sawmill facility which is operating nearby. Some employment is found in reforestation projects with this company and from fire-fighting crews during the summer months. Individual clearing and slashing crews offer work also.

A gravel pit, owned by the Co-Op and used for road construction, is also located here. Outfitting and guiding, and traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some Co-op members.

The area's scenic beauty offers tourism potential. The Willmore Provincial Park is located southwest of Muskeg.

Full-time positions are being offered at the maximum-security Correctional Institute in the Town of Grande Cache, and will undoubtedly become a source of employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #40 runs through the community of Muskeg. Internal roads are dirt and gravel and are maintained by the Improvement District #16.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Hinton, about 86 kms. south of Grande Cache, and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is the Grande Cache Airport located just north of the Town of Grande Cache. This airport is capable of accommodating DC-3 aircraft.

BUS SERVICES: Northway Bus Services provides daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines depot in Hinton.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electrical service is provided by Alberta Power. Water is obtained from wells, natural springs and from the river. The main source of home heating is wood.

RECREATION: Full recreational facilities are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in the Town of Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: Medical services are available from the Town of Grande Cache, which has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Grande Cache fire brigade, which has 24 volunteers, offers fire protection services to the residents of Muskeg.

POLICE: The Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

The Alberta Highway Maintainence Yard is located in Muskeg.

Full retail and commercial services are available in the town of Grande Cache.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides party-line telephone service to Muskeg residents. A sister station of CJYR-Edson and CBC radio transmit to this area. Individually owned satellite-receiving dishes and CBC-TV provide television broadcast reception. The Grande Cache Mountaineer, Hinton Herald Parklander, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and the Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Muskeg Co-Op is administered by one President and a five member Board of Directors. The Co-Op is also represented on the Improvement District #16 Advisory Council.

Address: MUSKEG SEE-PEE CO-OP
c/o Jim Desjarlais
Box 1451
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

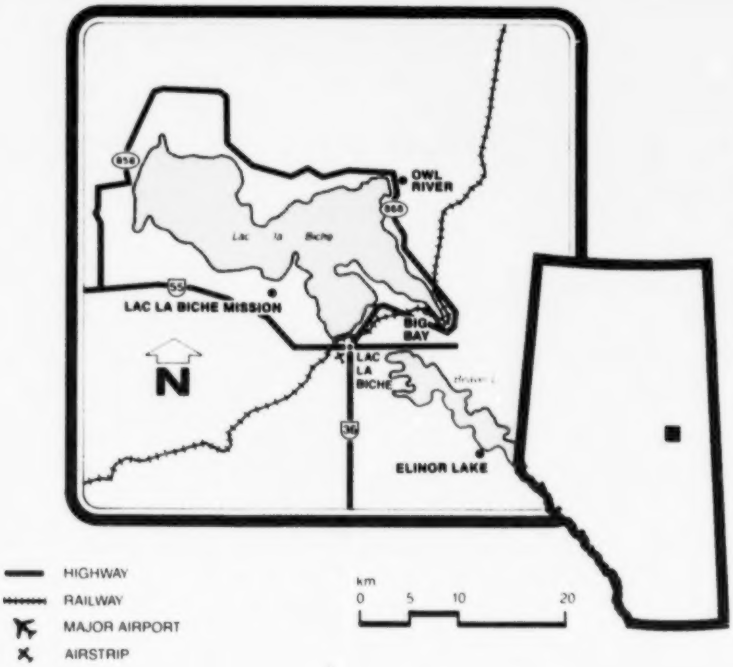
Federal and Provincial Government services are offered in the Town of Grande Cache.

Other Organizations

There are numerous committees and societies in the Town of Grande Cache, including Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral Association, and Native Counselling Services.

Comments

Owl River/Lac La Biche Mission/Elinor Lake/Big Bay



Owl River, Lac La Biche Mission, Elinor Lake and Big Bay

All of these communities are located in Improvement District #18, which has its administration offices in the Town of Lac La Biche. Services such as policing, hospital, ambulance, fire protection, school and commerce are from Lac La Biche.

The Improvement District does not have any water or sewage servicing for these areas. It should be noted that all of these communities are dependant upon Lac La Biche for these services.

Lac La Biche Mission and Owl River are known as areas rather than specific settlements because of their sparse population.

Owl River

Owl River is located 27 kms. north of Lac La Biche along secondary Highway #868. The area known as Owl River consists of a small general store and a number of houses. The school was closed in 1970 and is being used as a hall. The store and hall are central points for the residents of the area.

The majority of the residents in the immediate Owl River area are Native and have obtained miscellaneous permits for residency on Crown land.

There is a representative on Advisory Council Division #8. Metis Association of Alberta Local #117 is present in the community.

Lac La Biche Mission

Lac La Biche Mission is located approximately 11 kms. west of Lac La Biche along the Lac La Biche Lake. The mission is an older community which was established in the late 1800's. Presently, the old Mission site is being renovated as an historical site containing a church, convent and school. There are approximately 15 houses in the vicinity. There is also a small general store that has just opened recently. The Mission has a baseball diamond and the old school is being used as a community hall. Lac La Biche Mission is represented on the Advisory Council Division #8. Metis Association of Alberta Local #114 is present in the community.

Elinor Lake

Elinor Lake is a predominantly Native community with an Alberta Housing unregistered subdivision. It is located approximately 38 kms. southeast of the Town of Lac La Biche. This subdivision has about 27 serviced lots with electrical power. Presently there are eight mobile units in the subdivision.

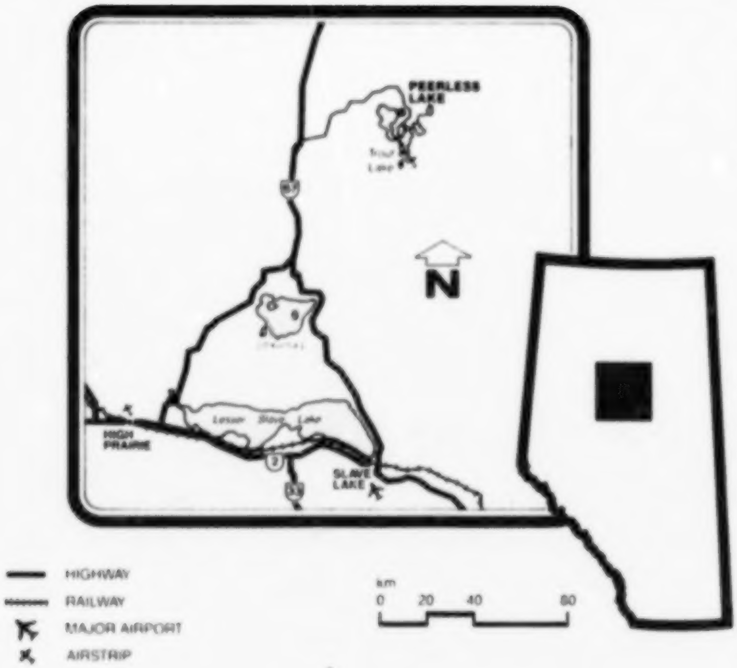
Alberta Housing has put some cisterns in the area, as drilling wells is not an alternative.

There is a representative on Advisory Council Division #4. Metis Association of Alberta Local #111 is present in the community.

Big Bay

Big Bay is located along Highway #858 to Owl River. It is a predominantly Native community situated approximately 10 kms. east of the Town of Lac La Biche. This area consists of six or seven farms with approximately 20 to 25 residents. All services are available in the Town of Lac La Biche.

Peerless Lake



Location

The community is situated on the northeastern shore of Peerless Lake approximately 240 kms. north of the Town of Slave Lake, the nearest commercial centre. It is located in Improvement District #17.

History

In the late 1700's northern Alberta was inhabited largely by the Cree Indian Nation. In the early 1800's, the Red River Metis moved into this area, closely followed by other entrepreneurs, trappers, lumbermen and prospectors.

The signing of Treaty #8 in 1899, paved the way for the settlement of areas with agricultural potential.

As the areas east and west of the Lesser Slave Lake and north along the Alaska Highway, were settled, rapid growth, more advanced technology and resource development followed the course of least resistance. Consequently, the areas around Loon, Peerless and Trout Lakes, which were relatively isolated, have only now begun to open up to development possibilities as accessibility increases.

Population

A 1985 census indicated the population of Peerless Lake to be 142 people.

Economic Base

The economy of Peerless Lake is based on oil exploration, forestry and tourism development.

Oil exploration and seismic activity have increased in this area and some casual work is available. Temporary employment can be found in government sponsored projects such as the Alberta Opportunity Corp. and the Department of Public Works.

A timber stand near the community has the potential for being a major employer of the residents should this type of development take place. Spin-off businesses in cabinet-making and boat-building are also a possibility.

The area's scenic beauty and the Peerless and nearby Graham Lake, offer great tourism and sports-fishing Lake is suitable for recreational development and a fishing lodge is under construction.

Seasonal employment can be found in fire-fighting activities. Hunting and trapping has declined rapidly in recent years, but is still done by some residents.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is Highway #67 from Slave Lake to Fort Vermilion. A gravel road leads from the highway to the community, a distance of about 80 kms.

AIRPORT: Trout Lake, 20 kms. south of Peerless Lake, has a grass landing strip. The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in Slave Lake. At present, there isn't any bus or rail service to this community.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from Peerless Lake or from individual wells located throughout the community. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power generators, and the main sources of home heating are wood and oil.

RECREATION: There is a skating rink, a baseball diamond and a beach development with cabins.

Education

SCHOOLS: One school in Peerless Lake, operated by the Northlands School Division, offers grades one to nine. Students in secondary grades are boarded out of the community. A Community Vocational Centre offers upgrading and vocational-training courses.

Services

HEALTH: A visiting public health nurse and a doctor provide medical care to the residents. Full medical services are available in Slave Lake.

POLICE: The Red Earth Creek R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

A small general store at Red Earth Creek meets the immediate needs of the Peerless Lake residents. Additional retail services are available in the Towns of Slave Lake and High Prairie. There is a gas service station located in the community, a pool hall and a small motel is being constructed. Plans are underway for a coffee-shop, laundromat and convenience store. Community-owned buildings include an administration building, a garage, rented to the Opportunity Corp., and an adult-upgrading building which is rented to the Community Vocational Centre.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio stations from Peace River and marginal reception of Edmonton stations are received. The Slave Lake weeklies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

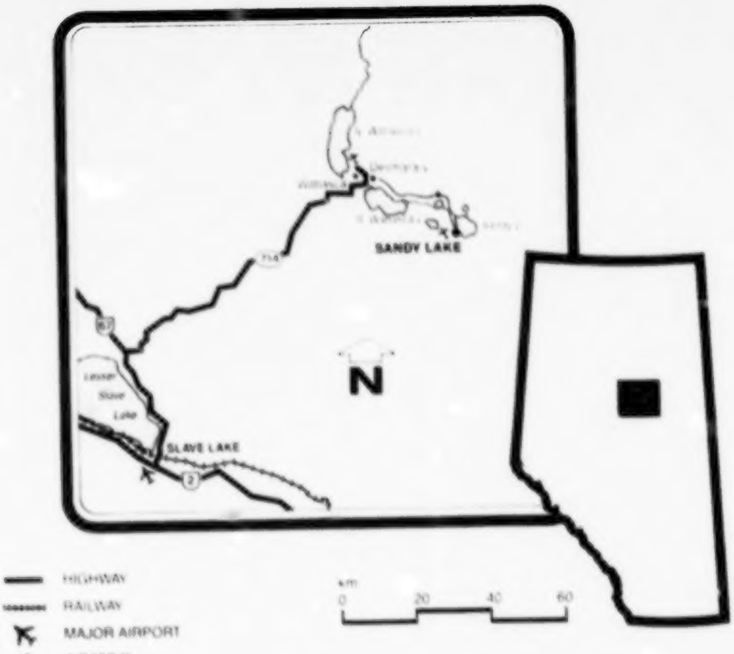
Government

LOCAL: The Peerless Lake Employment and Development Society (P.L.E.A.D.S.) is present in the community.

Address: PEERLESS LAKE EMPLOYMENT AND
DEVELOPMENT SOCIETY
General Delivery,
Trout Lake, ALberta
T0G 2N0

Comments

Sandy Lake



Location

The community is located on the west shore of Sandy Lake in Improvement District #17. It is approximately 150 kms. northeast of the Town of Slave Lake and about 40 kms. east of Desmarais.

History

The Sandy Lake was part of a water route used by the fur traders. Small creeks and rivers connected the Athabasca and Wabasca Rivers which were major water routes.

Priests visited the community in 1903 and reported seeing Metis and Treaty Indians living along the shores of Sandy Lake.

Population

A 1985 source indicated about 155 people. Seventy-nine percent are Metis, 17% Treaty Indians and the remaining four percent are non-Native.

Economic Base

Taron's Enterprises, located on the outskirts of the community, is involved in farming, sawmilling and road construction. This company is a major employer for the residents of Sandy Lake and employs about 60 people.

Short term job creation projects also provide employment opportunities.

Other employment opportunities are found outside the community.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Sandy Lake is Highway #754 from the Town of Slave Lake to Wabasca/Desmarais. A gravel road, constructed in the 1970's, links Sandy Lake to Desmarais. The internal roads are gravel.

AIRPORT: There is a grass landing strip located at Taron's Ranch, and a 1,100 metre (3,000 foot) landing strip in Wabasca, which is capable of accommodating DC-3 aircraft. The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electrical services are provided by Alberta Power. Water is obtained from individual wells. The main sources of home heating are wood, oil and propane.

RECREATION: A poolhall and skating rink are situated in the community. A new school gymnasium will provide additional recreation facilities.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Pelican Mountain School in Sandy Lake offers grades one to six. A new school is under construction. Students in pre-secondary and secondary grades attend school in Desmarais. All schools are administered by the Northlands School Division.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits the community regularly. The nearest medical clinic is the St. Martin Health Clinic located in Desmarais. Doctors visit weekly from the Town of Slave Lake. Air and ground ambulance services are available. The nearest hospital is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

FIRE PROTECTION: The nearest fire protection services are located in Desmarais which has a volunteer fire brigade and two pumper units.

POLICE: Sandy Lake is served by the Desmarais R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A confectionary store in the community meets the immediate needs of the residents. Additional commercial and retail services are available in Wabasca, Desmarais and the Town of Slave Lake.

Communications

Party-line telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Westlock and Edmonton radio stations are received, as is CBC-TV. Newspaper services are provided by the Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta publications.

Government

LOCAL: The Pelican Mountain Community Association is located in the community.

Address: PELICAN MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Sandy Lake, Desmarais, Alberta
T0G 0T0

Provincial and federal government services can be found in Wabasca, Desmarais and the Town of Slave Lake.

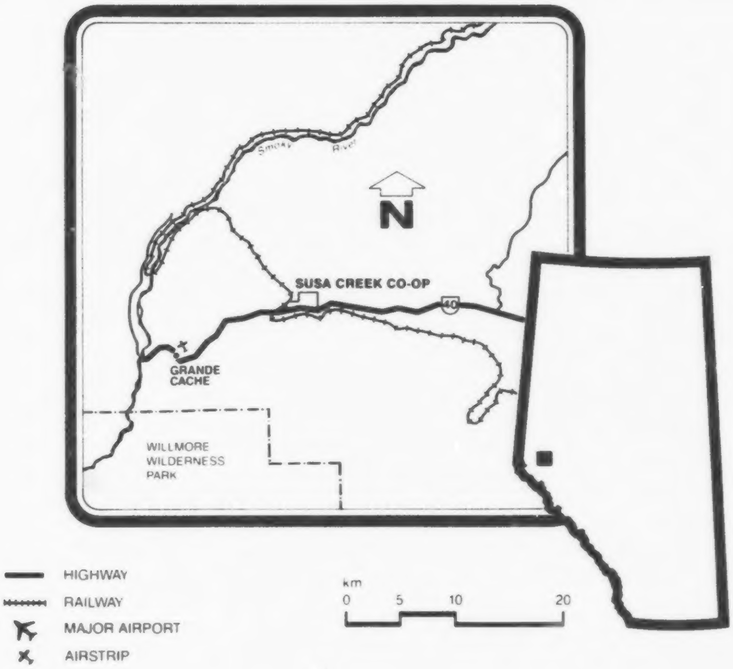
Other Organizations

The Pelican Mountain Metis Association of Alberta Local #50 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Susa Creek Co-Op



Location

The Susa Creek Co-Op is located about 10 kms. east of the Town of Grande Cache on secondary Highway #40. The Susa Creek runs through the Co-Op. It is located in Improvement District #16 and covers about 435 hectares (1,075 acres).

History

When Jasper National Park was being established in 1911 the Native people who inhabited that area moved to the region around the present Town of Grande Cache.

In 1974, the Provincial Government granted a total of 435 hectares (1,075 acres) to the Susa Creek Co-Op on the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source indicates there are about 70 people residing in the Susa Creek Co-Op. The Co-Op's population is a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestry.

Economic Base

Residents of Susa Creek find employment in forestry and road construction.

The British Columbia Forest Products sawmill, operating in the area, offers employment opportunities. Seasonal work is found in reforestation and fire-fighting duties.

Road construction, from Muskeg to Grande Prairie, employs some residents, as does the Department of Highways for clearing of the highway right-of-way.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some members.

Outfitting and guiding activities are also a source of income.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is Highway #40. Internal roads are gravel.

BUS SERVICE: Northways Bus Service provides daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines depot in Hinton.

AIRPORT: The Grande Cache Airport, a paved and lighted airstrip, serves the residents of Susa Creek.

RAILWAY: A Canadian National Railway depot in Hinton provides rail service.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from pumps supplied by the Improvement District or from the creek. Electrical service is provided by Alberta Power. The main source of home heating is wood.

RECREATION: There is a baseball diamond and a community hall for social functions located on the Co-Op. Full recreational facilities are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: Medical facilities are located in Grande Cache which has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Grande Cache fire department offers fire protection services.

POLICE: The Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Full retail services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Communications

A sister station of CJYR-Edson is received here. Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone service. The Hinton Herald Parklander, Edmonton dailies, the Grande Cache Mountaineer and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Susa Creek Co-Op is administered by one President and a five member Board of Directors. It is also located in Improvement District #16.

Address: SUSA CREEK CO-OP
c/o Allan Joachim
Box 651
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

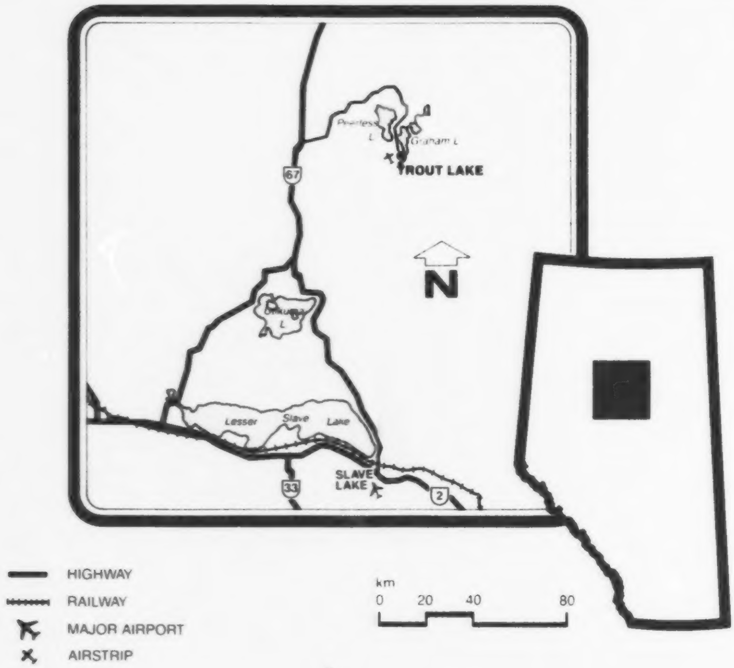
Federal and Provincial Government services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Other Organizations

Numerous societies and committees offer services from the Town of Grande Cache, including Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral Association and Native Counselling Services.

Comments

Trout Lake



Location

The Trout Lake settlement is located on the Trout River at the southern extremity of the Graham Lakes. It is approximately 250 kms. north of Lesser Slave Lake in Improvement District #17.

History

In the late 1700's, members of the Cree Indian Nation moved into the area around the Trout, Peerless and Loon Lakes. During the mid-1800's, the Red River Metis moved into the area closely followed by other prospectors, entrepreneurs, lumbermen and trappers.

The signing of Treaty #8 paved the way for the settlement of lands with agricultural potential.

As the area east and west of the Lesser Slave Lake and north along the McKenzie Highway were settled, rapid growth, more advanced technology and resource development followed the course of least resistance.

Consequently, the areas around Peerless, Trout and Loon Lakes, which were relatively isolated, have only now begun to open up to development possibilities as accessibility increases.

Population

A 1981 census indicated approximately 202 people.

Economic Base

Most employment opportunities are found in nearby Red Earth Creek. Increased oil and siesmic activity in the area is a major source of employment for the residents of Trout Lake.

Extensive forest cover provides some employment opportunities in cutting and slashing work.

Some residents are involved in hunting and trapping activities, but this is used mainly for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #686, mostly gravel, is the main access to this community. All internal roads are gravel.

AIRPORT: An Alberta Forest Service grass airstrip, located about ½ km north of the communtiy, is available for light aircraft. The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from Graham Lake and the Trout River. The school and teacherages have running water and septic tanks. Alberta Power supplies electricity via a 4.5 kW diesel generator. The main sources of home heating are wood, propane and oil.

RECREATION: The community has an outdoor skating rink and a baseball diamond. Additional recreational services are available at Peerless Lake, about 20 kms. north of Trout Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students in grades one to nine attend in the community. Secondary students receive their education via correspondence courses and tutors from the Northlands School Division. There is a Community Vocational Centre located in Trout Lake. Two teacherages supply residential needs for the teachers of these schools.

Services

HEALTH: A doctor and nurse visit the community weekly from the Athabasca Health Unit. Two health workers reside in the community. Additional medical services are available in Slave Lake.

POLICE: An R.C.M.P. Detachment from Red Earth Creek provides protection services to Trout Lake residents.

Commercial Activity

There is a small general store, a post office, community hall and a gas pump in the community. Additional retail services are available in Slave Lake and High Prairie.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service to the residents. Marginal radio and television reception is received. Newspaper services are provided by the Slave Lake weeklies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta.

Government

LOCAL: There is a Community Association in Trout Lake.

Address: TROUT LAKE COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Trout Lake, Alberta
T0G 2N0

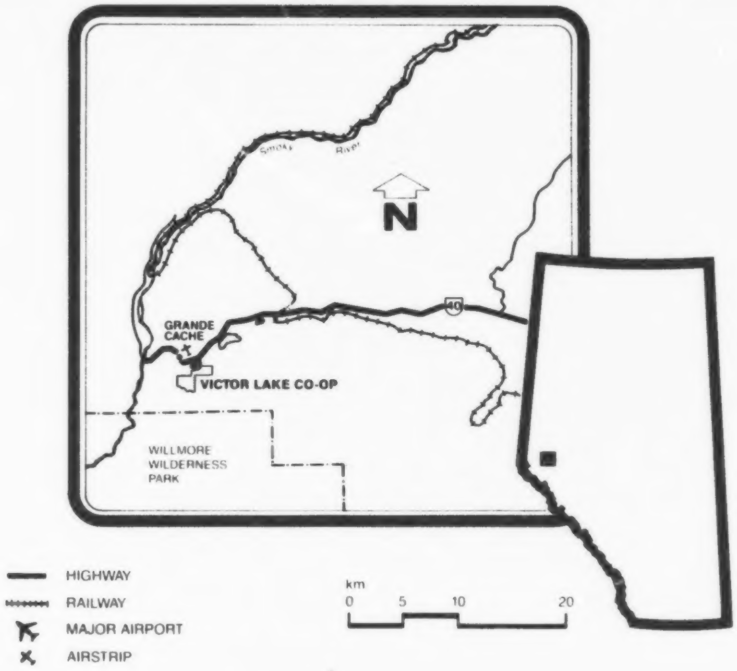
Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #315 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Victor Lake Co-Op



Location

The Victor Lake Co-Op is located in Improvement District #16 about 5 kms. south of the Town of Grande Cache on the shore of the Victor Lake. The Co-Op encompasses about 327 hectares (808 acres) and is located on the edge of the Town of Grande Cache boundary.

History

The Native people who inhabited the region which was to become Jasper National Park, moved to the Victor Lake area in 1911.

In 1974, the Victor Lake Co-Operative Association was granted a total of 808 acres of land from the Alberta Provincial Government on the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source has indicated the population of the Victor Lake Co-Op to be 65 people. The present population is a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestry.

Economic Base

Agricultural activities are done by some members of the Co-Op, however, this type of activity is used mainly for domestic purposes.

Horses are raised for outfitting and guiding purposes and traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some members.

British Columbia Forest Products offers employment in their sawmill and planer facility. Seasonal work is found in reforestation and fire-fighting duties.

The Town of Grande Cache and the retail services located there offer employment opportunities.

Some employment is offered by the maximum security Correctional Institute in the Town of Grande Cache, which is near completion.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #40 runs past the Co-Op. An internal all-weather gravel road winds around the lake and leads to the community.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Hinton and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The Grande Cache Airport, paved and lighted, is located near the Town of Grande Cache.

BUS SERVICE: Northways Bus Lines offers daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines depot located in Hinton.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Alberta Power provides electricity to the Co-Op. Water is obtained from pumps or from the lake. The main source of home heating is wood.

RECREATION: Victor Lake has a rodeo grounds and holds an annual rodeo. There is also a community hall for social events. Additional recreation facilities are located in Grande Cache.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in the Town of Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: The Town of Grande Cache offers medical service and has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: A 24-member volunteer fire brigade from Grande Cache offers fire protection to the Victor Lake area.

POLICE: The Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

Full retail services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides party-line telephone service. A sister station of CJYR-Edson is received here as is CBC-TV. The Grande Cache Mountaineer, Hinton Herald Parklander, Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Victor Lake Co-Op is located in Improvement District #16 and is administered by one President and a five member Board of Directors.

Address: VICTOR LAKE CO-OP
c/o Emil Moberly
Box 238
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

Provincial and Federal Government services are available in Grande Cache.

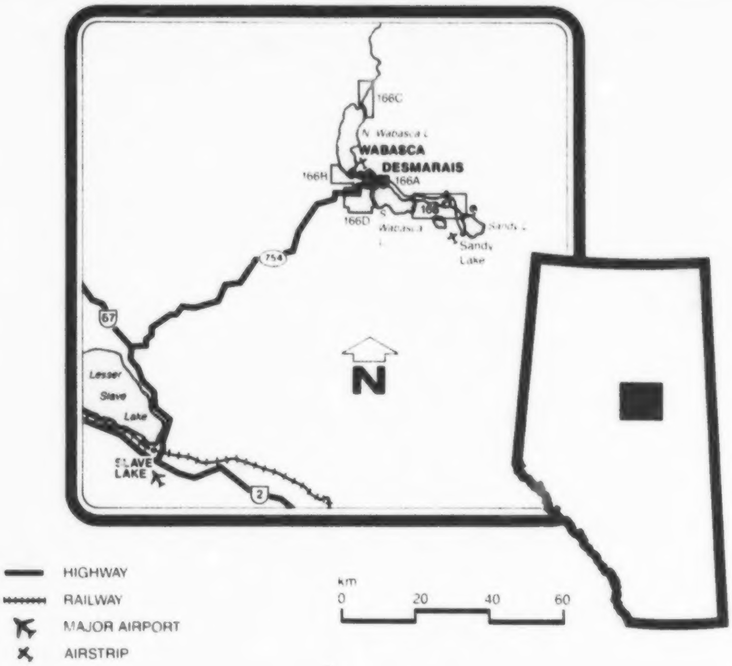
Other Organizations

There are numerous committees and societies in the Town of Grande Cache including the Metis Association of Alberta Local #171, Native Recreation and Referral and Native Counselling Services.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Wabasca/Desmarais



Location

The communities of Wabasca and Desmarais are situated approximately 150 kms. north of the Town of Slave Lake. The two settlements are scattered along 10 kms. of the North and South Wabasca Lakes and the Wabasca River. There are also five Reserves of the Bigstone Cree Indian Band encompassing a total of 129,121 hectares (52,275 acres).

History

In 1858, a Hudson Bay trading post was established near Wabasca. In 1899, the Treaty Commission and the Half Breed Commission travelled to Wabasca and established the Bigstone Cree Indian Reserves through Treaty #8.

In 1901, a mission school was opened in Desmarais by the Oblate Fathers and the Sisters of Providence. Families whose children attended this school and lived in the residences, moved into the area to be closer to their children.

The increasing range of government services and programs further established this area.

Population

The 1981 census indicated the population of Wabasca to 701 people, Desmarais — 260 people. A 1983 source states the Bigstone Cree to be 2,013 members.

Economic Base

The main employment opportunities for this region are forestry, government services and gas and oil development.

Oil and gas activity, with Gulf Oil and Di-Core, are major employers. A planned expansion of the plant may employ an estimated 300 permanent staff and start-up construction could employ an additional 400 to 700 people.

Government services, such as the Northlands School Division, also employs a large number of people.

The Bigstone Band Administration Office is a source of employment for some Band members.

The Wabasca region is known to be rich in natural resources. The Wabasca oil sands contain an estimated 51 million barrels of crude bitumen. The development of this resource will undoubtedly provide employment opportunities.

Over one third of the land on the Reserves is suitable for agricultural production. Oats, barley, canola, perennial forage crops and medium and short term vegetables can be grown.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some residents, although this is mainly for domestic purposes.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highways #67 and #754 from the Town of Slave Lake leads to the communities. The highways are presently being up-graded. A gravel road links the two communities.

AIRPORT: A paved and lighted airstrip at Wabasca measures 1,100 metres (3,000 feet) and is designed to handle DC-3 aircraft. A private landing strip suitable for emergency purposes is located at Taron's Ranch in Sandy Lake, about 17 kms. southeast of Wabasca.

BUS SERVICES: At present, there isn't any bus or rail service to these communities. A taxi service is available for trips to Slave Lake.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the North Wabasca Lake. A new water and sewage plant has been constructed in Desmarais and is distributed to most residents via a pipe system. Members of the Bigstone Cree Band haul water to outlying residents by truck. Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. Natural gas is being installed in the communities.

RECREATION: Within the community there are skating rinks, recreation halls, an arcade, a theatre, gymnasiums, baseball diamonds, picnic areas, and a community hall. The region offers outdoor recreation such as camping, boating, fishing and hunting.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Northlands School Division operates two schools in the area. The Misstassiniy School in Desmarais offers grades one to 12. The St. Theresa School in Wabasca offers grades one to six. There is a Community Vocational Centre located in Desmarais and the Bigstone Cree Band offers kindergarten classes.

Services

HEALTH: The St. Martin Health Care Centre, located in Desmarais, is staffed by two public health nurses, an X-ray technician and a secretary. Doctors visit weekly from the Town of Slave Lake. Ambulance and air-ambulance services are available. Additional medical facilities are available from the town of Slave Lake. There is also a new daycare centre in the community.

FIRE: The communities have a fire hall, two fire trucks, a pumper unit and a volunteer fire department.

POLICE: The area is served by the Desmarais R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Within the communities, there are four stores, four gas stations, taxi service, a snack bar/arcade, and a pool hall. Trades-services, such as plumbing and heating, are offered in the communities. Both communities have a post office. The nearest banking and hotel services are located in the Town of Slave Lake.

Communications

Telephone service is available from Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton, Peace River and Camrose. Edmonton television stations and CBC-TV are also received here. Individually owned satellite-receiving dishes are located in the area. Newspaper service is provided by the Slave Lake publications and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: Wabasca and Desmarais are located in Improvement District #17 who maintain an office in the community. The Wabasca Advisory Council is a member of Improvement District #17 East. (Slave Lake area). It represents the communities of Wabasca, Desmarais, Sandy Lake and Chipewyan Lake.

Address: WABASCA ADVISORY COUNCIL
General Delivery,
Wabasca, Alberta
T0G 2K0

The Bigstone Cree Band has an Administration Office and is governed by a Chief and 12 Councillors.

Address: BIGSTONE CREE INDIAN BAND
General Delivery,
Desmarais, Alberta
T0G 0T0

There are 33 federal and provincial government agencies and services located in the two communities.

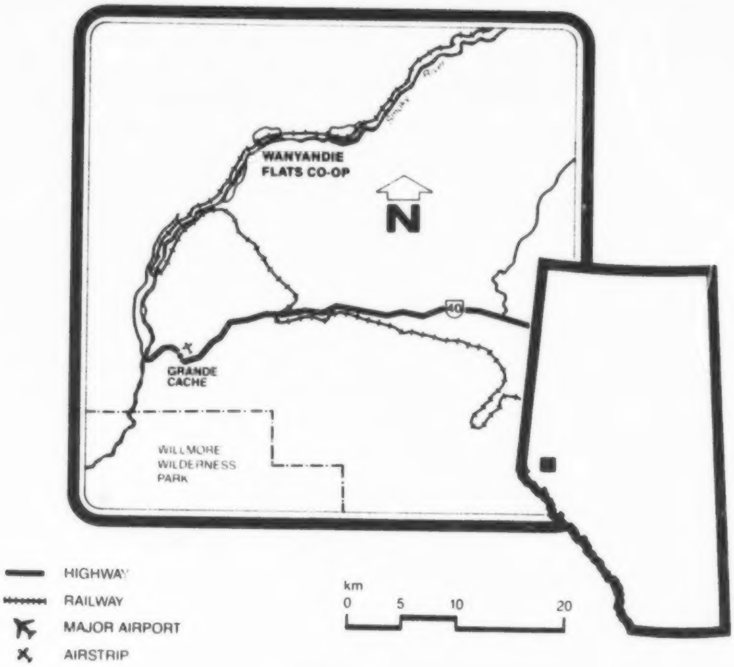
Other Organizations

There are also 23 volunteer committees and societies in the area including Metis Association of Alberta Locals #129 and #250.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Wanyandie Flats



Location

The Wanyandie Flats Co-Op is located about 27 kms. northeast of the town of Grande Cache. It is comprised of three lots containing 151 hectares (373 acres), 52 hectares (128 acres) and 6 hectares (16 acres) respectively, totalling 210 hectares (518 acres). The Smoky River runs directly south of the Co-Op. It is located in Improvement District #16.

History

The Smoky River was once the main water route for traders, settlers and explorers. Generations of Native people have lived on the banks of the Smoky River. The fertile soil and fresh water supply drew people to this area.

In 1974, the Provincial Government granted 210 hectares (518 acres) to the Wanyandie Co-Operative Association on the condition that the lands be used for Native settlers.

Population

A 1985 source has indicated the population of Wanyandie Flats to be about 27 people. This includes residents of the nearby Sheep Creek area. The Co-Op members are a mixture of Cree, Iroquois and European ancestors.

Economic Base

The main economic base of the Wanyandie Flats is the market garden which is maintained by members of the Co-Op. Fresh produce is grown and sold in the Town of Grande Cache. The Co-Op is presently planning to expand the present greenhouses which will further enhance this type of activity. Hay crops are also grown.

Employment opportunities include the Department of Highways which offers employment on road construction crews operating in the area.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some members. Outfitting and guiding operations provide seasonal employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: An all-weather gravel road leads from the Town of Grande Cache to Wanyandie Flats.

BUS SERVICE: Northways Bus Service offers daily service to a Greyhound Bus Lines Depot in Hinton.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located just north of the town of Grande Cache and is paved and lighted.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Hinton and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from pumps which are supplied by the Improvement District. Alberta Power supplies electricity. The main source of home heating is wood.

RECREATION: Full recreational facilities are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Education

SCHOOLS: All children are bussed to schools in the Town of Grande Cache.

Services

HEALTH: The Town of Grande Cache offers medical services and has a 34-bed hospital and four doctors.

POLICE: The Grande Cache R.C.M.P. Detachment offers protection services to the residents of Wanyandie Flats.

Commercial Activity

All retail and commercial services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Communications

A sister-station of CJYR-Edson radio is received in this area. At present, there isn't any telephone or television service available in this area. The Grande Cache Mountaineer, the Hinton Herald Parklander, the Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Wanyandie Flats Co-Op is administered by one President and a three-member Board of Directors. Wanyandie Flats is represented on Improvement District #16 Advisory Council.

Address: WANYANDIE FLATS CO-OP LTD.
c/o Fred Wanyandie
Box 1077
Grande Cache, Alberta
T0E 0Y0

Federal and Provincial Government services are available in the Town of Grande Cache.

Other Organizations

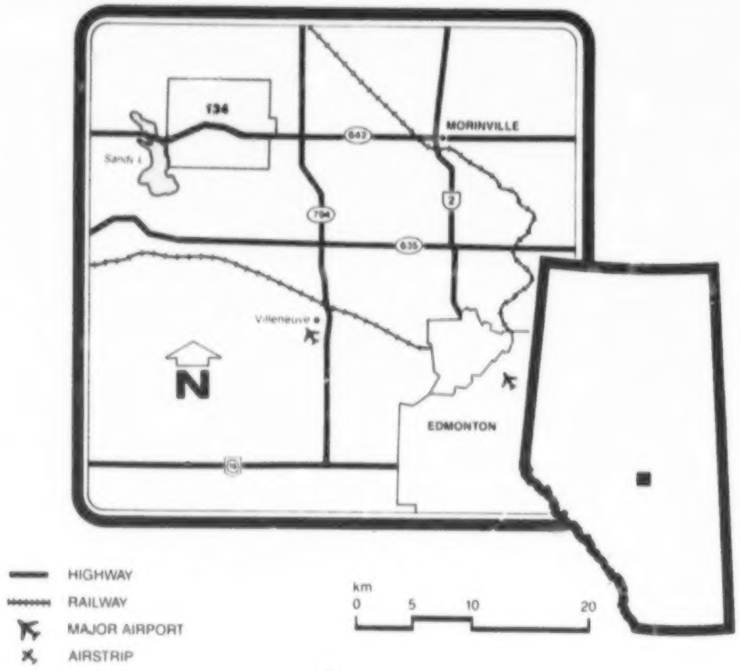
There are numerous committees and societies located in the Town of Grande Cache, including Native Counselling Services, Native Recreation and Referral and Metis Association of Alberta Local #171.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

INDIAN BANDS

Alexander



Location

The Alexander Indian Reserve #134 is situated about 40 kms. northwest of the City of Edmonton. It is located in Improvement District #13 and covers an area of 7,244 hectares (17,900 acres).

History

Members of the Alexander Band have ancestral ties with the Plains Cree Nation. They were a nomadic Band who followed the buffalo herds and who were known as fierce warriors.

When the fur-trade came to Alberta, the Cree acted as middlemen for the Hudson Bay Company and the Bands further west.

By 1880, the buffalo herds had been destroyed and the Plains Cree moved to Reserves.

Treaty #6 was signed in 1876 at Fort Carlton, Saskatchewan.

Population

A 1984 source indicated a population of 731 Band members.

Economic Base

The Band Administration is housed in a new office and serves as one of the major sources of employment on the Reserve. Another major activity for Band members is fire-fighting in Banff National Park during the summer months. Over half of the land is cultivated or in tame pasture. Crops which have high potential are oats, wheat, barley, canola and perennial forage crops. There are large areas which have a high capacity for waterfowl and livestock production.

There is a Band-owned buffalo farm paddock located on the Reserve.

The tourist beach development on Sandy Lake also provides a source of income for the Band.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 passes in a north/south direction near the Reserve. All internal roads are paved.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located 15 kms. east in Morinville.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Villeneuve approximately 25 kms. southeast of the Reserve. Major airports are located in Edmonton.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Coachways Bus Lines, is located in Morinville.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. Sewage disposal is by a pipe system. There is a pump-house and water treatment facility on the Reserve. The main source of home heating is natural gas.

RECREATION: An arena, a gymnasium, a baseball park, and a drop-in centre serve as recreation facilities.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Band administers a school which offers grades one to seven. Students attending grades eight and nine are bussed to Namao and students in grades 10 to 12 are bussed to Morinville. The Band was unique in developing their own Native curriculum which was used for other Native school Programs. There is also a day-care centre located on the Reserve.

Services

HEALTH: A health and nursing centre provides the Reserve with medical care.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a volunteer fire department, a fire control officer, a fire truck and a fire hall.

POLICE: A police station and a Tribal Police Force are located on the Reserve. Additional protection services are provided by the Morinville R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A tradeshop, laundromat, and grader garage are located here. Alexander Manufacturing, specializing in upholstery and furniture, is located on the Reserve.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone services. Radio and television broadcast reception is provided by various Edmonton and area stations. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, the Alberta Native News and Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

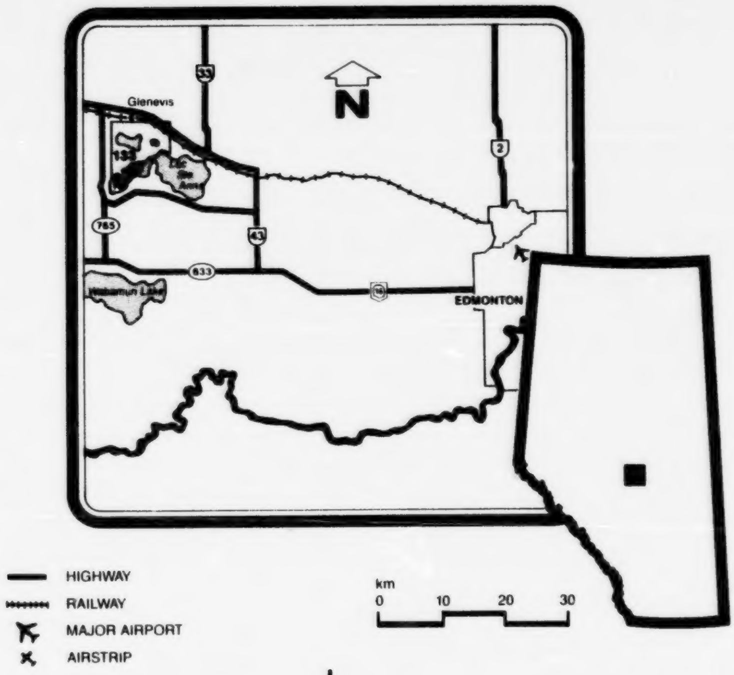
LOCAL: The Alexander Band is governed by a Chief and seven Councillors.

Address: ALEXANDER RESERVE
Box 510
Morinville, Alberta
T0G 1P0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Alexis



Location

The Alexis Indian Reserve #133 is situated about 80 kms. northeast of the City of Edmonton on Highway #43. It covers an area of 6,175 hectares (15,259 acres). The Reserve is located in improvement District #13.

History

The Alexis Band traces their historical roots to the Souix Indian Nation. Some time before 1640, they separated from the Souix Nation and moved northwards to Lake Winnipeg and then to the Canadian Rockies. During this time, they became strong allies of the Cree.

They were known as the "Stone People", hence the name Stony Indians. By 1873, the Stony Indians had divided into smaller Bands. Led by Chief Alexis, who signed Treaty #6 in 1876, the Band settled on their traditional hunting grounds of Lac St. Anne.

Population

A 1984 census indicated the population of the Alexis Band to be 736 people.

Economic Base

A large portion of the Reserve has waterfowl production potential.

Over one half of the Reserve has agricultural potential with oats, barley, canola, perennial forage crops and vegetables.

Available natural resources include forestry, oil and natural gas.

Cattle-ranching is done by some Band members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Alexis Reserve is accessible from Highway #43 which passes through the northeast corner of the Reserve. Internally, the roads are paved and gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in Glenevis on the Canadian National Railway line.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in the City of Edmonton.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Coachways Bus Lines, is located in Glenevis.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity from Alberta Power is available to Reserve members. The main source of home heating is natural gas. Water is obtained from individual wells. Sewage disposal is by a holding lagoon.

RECREATION: Facilities include a baseball park, pool hall, community hall and picnic areas.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten to grade four is available on the Reserve and is administered by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Students in grades five to 12 attend elementary, pre-secondary and secondary schools in Onoway.

Services

HEALTH: A clinic, a community health worker and a field nurse provide medical care to the Band.

FIRE PROTECTION: A fully equipped fire truck and volunteer fire brigade serve the Reserve.

POLICE: The Reserve has a Tribal Police Force. The Mayerthorpe R.C.M.P. Detachment offers additional protection services.

Commercial Activity

The Alexis Band Farm Trust serves as a source of income. Nikodi Park Ltd. has rodeo grounds, picnic areas, a daycare centre and a confectionary.

Additional commercial services are available in Edmonton, Onoway and Spruce Grove.

Communications

Television and radio reception are from various stations in Edmonton. Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone service. The Edmonton dailies, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Alberta Native News provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The Alexis Band is governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

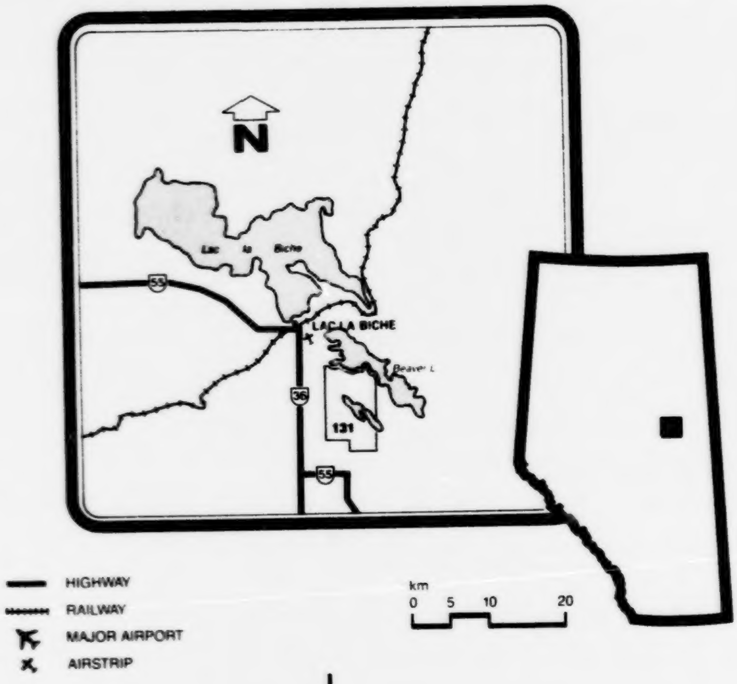
It is a member of the Yellowhead Tribal Council.

Address: ALEXIS BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 7
Glenevis, Alberta
T0E 0N0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Beaver Lake



Location

The Beaver Lake Indian Reserve is located 13 kms. south of the Town of Lac La Biche. The Reserve encompasses 6,145 hectares (15,185 acres) and is located in Improvement District #18.

History

Members of the Beaver Lake Indian Band have ancestral ties with the Woodland Cree Indian Nation.

They originally lived in the vicinity of Beaver Lake and were part of a Band headed by Chief Peeaysis. He signed Treaty #6 on their behalf at Fort Pitt on September 9, 1876.

The Beaver Lake Band was assigned their Reserve in 1911.

Population

A 1984 source indicated 319 Band members, though the on-Reserve population is slightly less.

Economic Base

The major employer on the Reserve is the Band Administration.

Beaver Lake Fashions is the main industry on the Reserve and is Band operated.

Agricultural potential exists with crops such as oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

Some of the Band members are actively involved in hunting, fishing and trapping though this is seasonal.

A number of Band members have initiated their own construction and service companies.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Reserve is accessible by an all-weather road joining it to Highway #36. There are 18 kms. of internal gravel road on the Reserve.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is in Lac La Biche.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Lac La Biche.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is in Lac La Biche and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Some houses on the Reserve have wells though most of the water is hauled in from Lac La Biche. There are some indoor plumbing and sewage systems. Electricity is available to most homes from Trans-Alta Utilities. Natural gas and wood are the main sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a recreation complex, two baseball diamonds, an outdoor skating rink, a community hall and a pool hall. There is a beach and campsite development at Beaver Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Amisk School offers grades one to nine on the Reserve. Students attending secondary grades are bussed to schools in Lac La Biche.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a health station and two community health representatives. A public health nurse visits regularly. There is also a de-tox centre located on the Reserve.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a fire hall, a fire truck and a volunteer fire department.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by the Lac La Biche R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is a pool hall and a cafe located on the Reserve. Beaver Lake Fashions and Sportswear is a Band-owned wholesale company on the Reserve. Residents travel to Lac La Biche for additional retail services.

Communications

Party-line telephone service is available to the residents from Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton, Camrose and St. Paul, as are various Edmonton television stations. The Lac La Biche Post, Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspapers are available to the residents.

Government

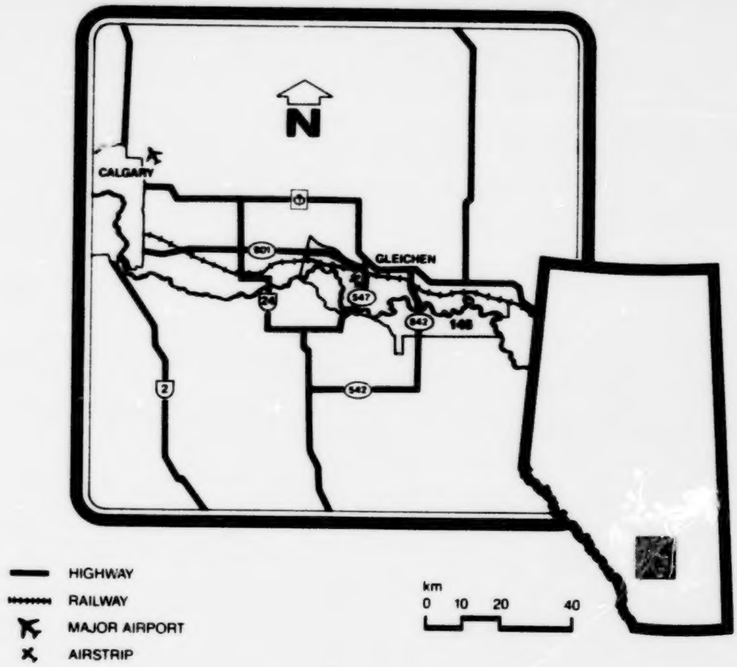
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and two Councillors. The Beaver Lake Band is a member of the Northeast Tribal Chiefs Association.

Address: BEAVER LAKE BAND
Box 960
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Blackfoot



Location

The Blackfoot Indian Band occupies one Reserve which is located approximately 50 kms. east of the City of Calgary. The Reserve encompasses 71,014 hectares (175,406 acres).

History

The Blackfoot Nation is comprised of three Indian Bands; Blackfoot, Blood and Peigan. Since the Blackfoot Indians were the first to meet the fur-traders, the entire Nation was named after them.

In 1887, Treaty #7 was signed by Cheif Crowfoot at Blackfoot Crossing, which is located on the Reserve beside the Bow River.

The first survey took place in 1878 and again in 1883.

Population

A 1983 census indicated 3,182 Band members, though the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

Agriculture is one of the main sources of employment on the Reserve. Almost 60% of Reserve land is suitable for agricultural production.

Major crops which can be grown are: wheat, oats, barley, flax, canola, durum wheat and perennial forages.

Oil and gas leases on the Reserve provide some income and employment opportunities.

Band-owned businesses and the Band Administration account for a sizable portion of the on-Reserve employment.

There are also a number of Band members who work in the City of Calgary.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access roads to the Reserve are Highways #901, #547 and #842. The Town of Gleichen, which is located on the Reserve, is the main commercial centre and has paved roads. Most of the Reserve has all-weather gravel and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway has a depot in Gleichen and offers daily service.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Gleichen.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily passenger and freight service to the Town of Gleichen.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied by Alberta Power. The main source of home heating for residents of Gleichen is natural gas. Outlying residents rely on propane. Water is obtained from piped and individual wells.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include an arena, skating rink, three baseball parks, rodeo grounds, gymnasium and a museum at the Old Sun College. Construction on a new recreation centre has begun.

Education

SCHOOLS: There are two schools on the Reserve, offering kindergarten to grade nine. Students in grades 10 to 12 attend school in Calgary. There are some vocational education and up-grading facilities at the Old Sun College located on the Reserve. Construction of a new elementary school has begun.

Services

HEALTH: There is a medical centre, with a doctor, nurse and a dentist, located on the Reserve.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a fire hall with two fire trucks and a volunteer fire department.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by its Tribal Police Force in conjunction with the Gleichen R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

The Town of Gleichen serves the retail and service needs of Reserve members. Band-owned businesses on the Reserve include Siksika Vacation Resort, Blackfoot Co-op, Old Sun Upholstery, Blackfoot Co-op Bussing Ltd., and the Blackfoot Cattle Co-operative. There are plans to build a retail complex on the Reserve in the summer of 1985.

Communications

Private telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcasts are received from Calgary. Newspapers available on the Reserve include the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Kainai News, and the Calgary dailies.

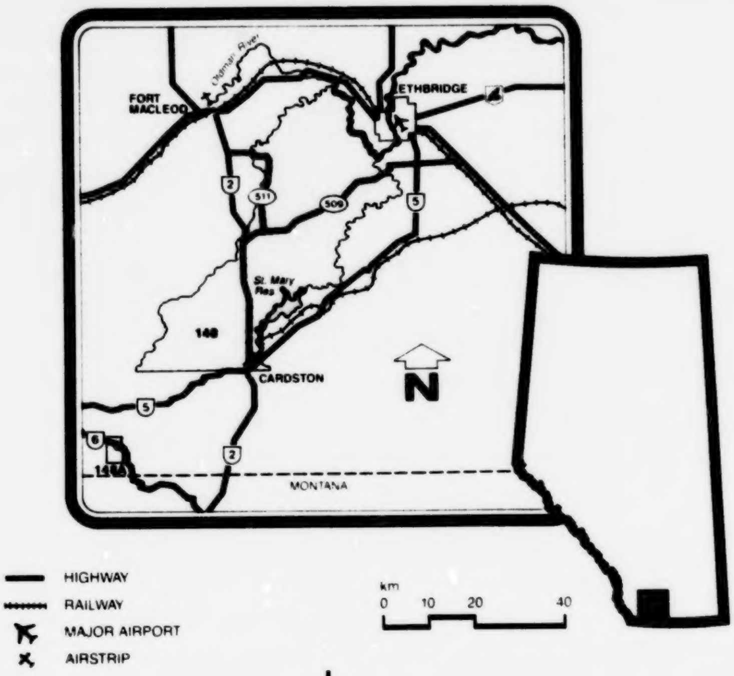
Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and 12 Councillors.

Address: BLACKFOOT BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 249
Gleichen, Alberta
T0J 1N0

Comments

Blood



Location

The Blood Indian Reserves are located approximately 15 kms. west of Lethbridge. Reserve #148 encompasses 141,490 hectares (349,618 acres). Reserve #148A covers 1,971 hectares (4,872 acres)

History

The original name of the Band was Kainai meaning Many Chiefs. The Cree Indians called these fierce warriors "Blood People" which prompted early traders to call the tribe Bloods. The name has remained since.

The Blood Reserve was originally established in 1877 under Treaty #7. However, the Band moved to Montana for a number of years and returned in 1882. They camped along the Belly River where the present Reserve is now located.

The Reserve was formally established in 1883.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 6,149 Band members, although the on-Reserve population was slightly lower.

Economic Base

The economic base for the Blood Reserve includes cattle ranching, agriculture, construction and manufacturing. The Band also receives revenue from oil and gas leases on the Reserve. There is also employment found in the four communities located in and around the Reserve: Standoff, Cardston, Fort Macleod and Lethbridge.

Over three-quarters of Reserve #148 is suitable for agricultural development with crops such as wheat, oats, barley, canola and perennial forages.

Sections of the Reserve have potential for waterfowl and cattle production.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main accesses to the Reserve are Primary Highways #2 and #5, and secondary Highways #509 and #511. The Reserve contains over 800 kms. of paved, gravelled and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: Canadian Pacific Railway supplies freight and passenger service from a depot in Fort Macleod.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Fort Macleod. There is a major airport located on the outskirts of Lethbridge.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offer daily service from depots in Cardston and Fort Macleod.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by Calgary Power. Although some of the outlying residences rely on propane for home heating, a majority of the homes are equipped with natural gas. Water is treated and distributed to the homes through pipes. Sewage disposal is through a pipe system and a lagoon.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include an arena, skating rinks, five baseball diamonds, rodeo and pow-wow grounds, picnic areas, community hall, three gymnasiums and a pool hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: Schools on the Reserve include the Standoff School serving kindergarten to grade six, Levern (Glenwood) School which serves grades one to six and St. Mary's in Cardston which offers grades four to 12. The Reserve also has a library.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a nursing centre with one nurse and two community health workers. The Blood Band Hospital can accommodate 31 patients. A new Medical Centre has just opened and houses a laboratory, optometry, physiotherapy, dental service and a soundproof room to facilitate Native healing arts.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is one fire truck and a volunteer fire department on the Reserve.

POLICE: The Reserve has a Tribal Police Force. Additional services are provided by the Cardston R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Some of the major Band-owned businesses on the Reserve include Kainai Construction (home building), Kainai News, Blood Band Farms Ltd., a shopping centre, Red Crow Development, Blood Band Hospital and clinic, restaurants and grocery stores. Other retail and service industries are available on the Reserve.

Communications

Telephone service is provided to the residents by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception is from Calgary and Lethbridge. Newspapers on the Reserve include The Lethbridge Herald, the Calgary Sun, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Kainai News.

Government

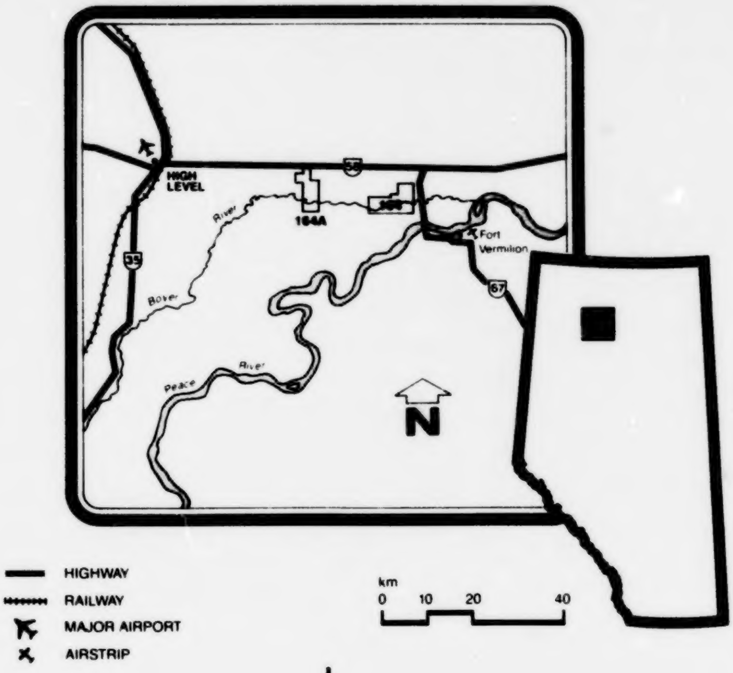
LOCAL: The Blood Reserve is governed by a Chief and 12 Councillors.

Address: BLOOD BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 60
Standoff, Alberta
T0L 1Y0

FEDERAL: There is a post office on the Reserve.

Comments

Boyer River



Location

The Boyer River Band occupies two Reserve areas. Boyer River Reserve #164 is located 52 kms. east of High Level and five kms. south of Highway #58. The Reserve covers an area of 4,249 hectares (10,500 acres).

The Child Lake Reserve #164A is located 16 kms. west of the Boyer River Reserve and encompasses an area of 2,826 hectares (6,983 acres).

Both are located in Improvement District #23.

History

Members of the Boyer River Reserve trace their ancestry to the Beaver Indian Nation. Excellent trappers and hunters, the Beaver Indians are known for their independence.
Their name is derived from the word Tsattine — meaning "dwellers among the Beavers", which was based upon the Native term for Peace River.

When the fur-trade arrived in Alberta the Beaver Indians moved northwards and settled in the Fort Vermilion area. The Headman of the Boyer River Band, Ambrose Tete Noir, entered into Treaty #8 on behalf of the Band in 1899. The Boyer River Band is also known as Ambrose Tete Noir's Band.

Population

A 1985 source indicates 331 people. Presently, about 40% of the population live on the Boyer Reserve and 60% reside on the Child Lake Reserve.

Economic Base

Most of the Boyer River Reserve is farmed by Band members while a great portion of the Child Lake Reserve is leased to non-Band members.

Fire-fighting provides some seasonal employment.

Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done by some Band members although this is mainly for domestic purposes. Most full-time employment is found off the Reserve.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Both Reserve areas are accessible from Highway #58 via an all-weather gravel road. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in High Level about 52 kms. west of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: Fort Vermilion and High Level offer commercial air services.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in High Level.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Treated river water is delivered to both Reserves. There are also individual wells located on the Reserve. All homes have electrical service from Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are wood and propane.

RECREATION: The Band has an outdoor skating rink and baseball diamonds.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Rocky Lane School, located near the Boyer Reserve, offers kindergarten to grade 12. The school is operated by the Fort Vermilion School Division.

Services

HEALTH: Medical facilities are located in High Level and Fort Vermilion.

FIRE PROTECTION: Fire protection services are provided by the Fort Vermilion fire Department.

POLICE: The Fort Vermilion R.C.M.P. Detachment serves the Reserve areas.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to Fort Vermilion and High Level for retail services.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Limited radio broadcast reception is from CBC-FM and CKYL-Peace River. CBC -TV is also received. The High Level Echo, Northern Pioneer, Manning Banner Post, Northern Journal and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

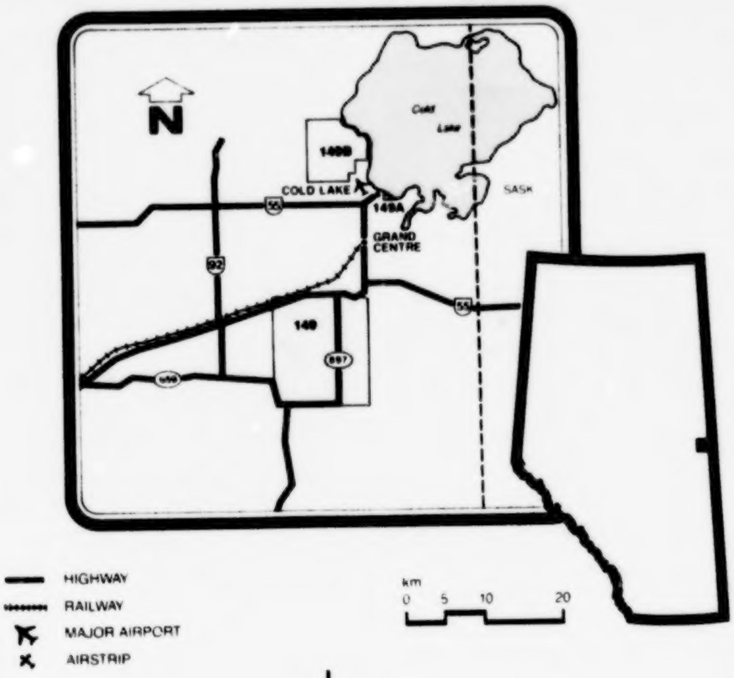
LOCAL: The Reserves are governed by a Chief and three Councillors. The Administration Office for both Reserves is situated on the Boyer River Reserve.

Address: The BOYER RIVER BAND
Box 270
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Cold Lake



Location

The Cold Lake Reserves consist of three areas and encompass a total of 18,694 hectares (46,193 acres). A majority of the population resides in LeGoff Reserve #149, which is located 12 kms. south of Cold Lake in Improvement District #18.

History

The Cold Lake Band is of Cree and Chipewyan descent. The Chipewyan Indians first named Cold Lake, Big Fish Lake. The early traders called it Cold Water Lake. In 1905, Cold Lake received its present name.

Treaty #6 was signed on behalf of the southern Chipewyan Indians by Chief Kin-oo-say-oo at Fort Pitt in 1876. In 1904, an Order-In-Council was passed establishing the original Cold Lake Indian Reserve #149. The other two Reserves were established in 1909 and 1911.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 1,045 Band members, although the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Reserve is diverse and connected to on and off-Reserve activities. About 72% of Reserve #149 has potential for agricultural production. Major crops which may be grown are oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

Other employment opportunities are short-term government job-creation projects, commercial fishing, Band Administration, and hunting and trapping activities.

Some members have found employment with oil companies in the area and the communities surrounding the Reserve, including the Canadian Armed Forces Base in Cold Lake.

Transportation Services

ROADS: LeGoff #149 is accessible from secondary Highway #897 which runs through the Reserve. There are approximately 90 kms. of gravel and dirt roads on the Reserve.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in Grand Centre.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located at Medley Airforce Base, about 10 kms. north of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Grand Centre.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied to the residents by Alberta Power. Running water is available to the core area. Residents in the outlying areas have their water trucked in. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks.

RECREATION.. Facilities on the Reserve include a gymnasium, community hall, baseball diamond, outdoor skating rink and access to the beach area on Reserve #149B.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is a daycare centre and one school on the Reserve which offers grades one to nine, and is operated by the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Students attending grades 10 to 12 are bussed to schools in Grand Centre, Cold Lake or Blue Quills.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a health clinic with a resident public health nurse and a community health worker.

FIRE PROTECTION: Band members have recently purchased a fire truck and plan to organize a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by a Grand Centre R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Residents travel to Grand Centre, Cold Lake or Bonnyville for retail services.

Communications

Telephone service is supplied by Alberta Government Telephones. TV and radio reception is from Edmonton, Bonnyville, Lloydminster, Cold Lake, Camrose and St. Paul. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Kainai News publications provide newspaper services.

Government

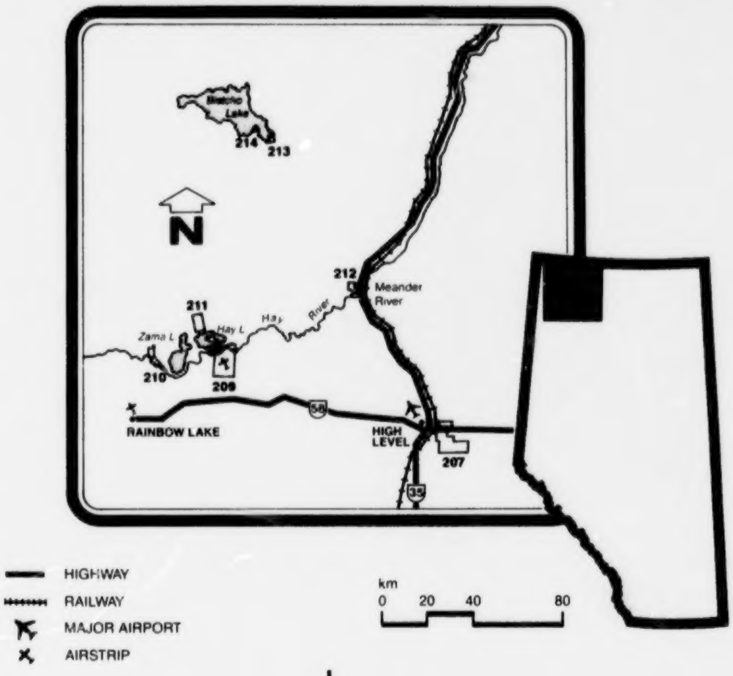
LOCAL: The Reserves are governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

Address: COLD LAKE BAND
Box 1769
Grand Centre, Alberta
T0A 1T0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Dene Tha



Location

The Dene Tha Indian Band resides in seven areas located in Improvement District #23.

The Bushe River Indian Reserve #207 is located about 2 kms. east of High Level. The Reserve extends over 11,167 hectares (27,595 acres). The Chief and a number of Band members live on this Reserve.

Hay Lakes (Assumption) Indian Reserve #209 is located about 128 kms. northwest of High Level. The Reserve encompasses the two settlements of Habey and Chateh, and covers an area of 12,355 hectares (30,530 acres). The Tribal Administration and a large part of the Band's population are located on this Reserve.

Meander River Indian Reserve #212, also known as the Upper Hay River Reserve, is situated 74 kms. north of High Level just west of the Meander River settlement. The Reserve covers 1,418 hectares (3,504 acres).

Four un-inhabited Reserve areas are located at Zama Lake, Amber River, Jackfish Point and Bistcho Lake.

History

In the early 1700's, the Slave Indians moved northwest and eventually settled in the Upper Hay River area. They were the most northerly Band in Alberta and their traditional hunting grounds ranged well into the North West Territories.

Adhesion to Treaty #8 was signed in 1900. Additional lands were granted in 1950 and 1963. Bushe River Reserve #207 was granted 2,093 hectares (5,170 acres) in 1950. The Meander River Reserve received 46 hectares (115 acres) in 1950 and an additional 1,574 hectares (3,889 acres) in 1963.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 1,422 people. The majority of the population resides in Assumption.

Economic Base

Over half of the land on all the Reserves is capable of sustained agricultural development although there is a climatic limitation.

Forestry potential appears promising and plans are underway to re-establish a commercial sawmill. Alberta Forestry Service provides some employment in re-forestation and fire-fighting projects.

Trapping, commercial fishing and big-game hunting are a source of revenue for some Band members.

The Reserves are situated in the northern sector of the Elmsworth Gas Fields and short-term employment is found there. The Band receives some royalties from this oil development.

Transportation Service

ROADS: Highway #58 is the main access to these communities. All internal roads are gravel or dry weather roads.

RAILWAY: The closest railway depot is located at High Level, about 110 kms. east of Assumption, and is operated by Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORTS: Assumption has a grass landing strip for light aircraft. The nearest commercial airport is located in High Level. There is also a landing strip in Rainbow Lake.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in High Level.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is supplied by nearby creeks and is hauled to the Reserves by truck. A partial sewage system has been installed for the core area. Alberta Power provides electricity to all homes. The main sources of home heating are wood, oil and propane.

RECREATION: The Reserves have baseball diamonds and outdoor skating rinks. School gymnasiums are also utilized on two Reserves. A community hall at Assumption is used for social functions.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Fort Vermilion School Division operates schools on the Assumption and Meander River Reserves. They offer kindergarten to grade 11 and grade one to nine respectively. Grade 12 students are bussed to High Level.

Services

HEALTH: The Assumption Reserve Health Unit employs three full-time staff and three community health workers. A doctor visits the Reserve once a week.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Assumption Reserve has a Band-owned Fire Hall and one pumper unit manned by a volunteer fire brigade. The remaining Reserve areas receive support from the Town of High Level.

POLICE: A four-man R.C.M.P. Detachment, located on the Assumption Reserve, offers protection to that area and the Rainbow Lake area. The Bushe and Meander River Reserves are served by the High Level R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A laundromat, a food and hardware store are located on the Assumption Reserve. An expansion is underway that will house a restaurant and service station.

The post office is located in Chateh on the Assumption Reserve.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides service to all areas. CBC radio is received here, as is CBC-TV, through the Fort Simpson cable system. The High Level Echo, the Pioneer, the Northern Pioneer, the Manning Banner Post and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta offer newspaper services.

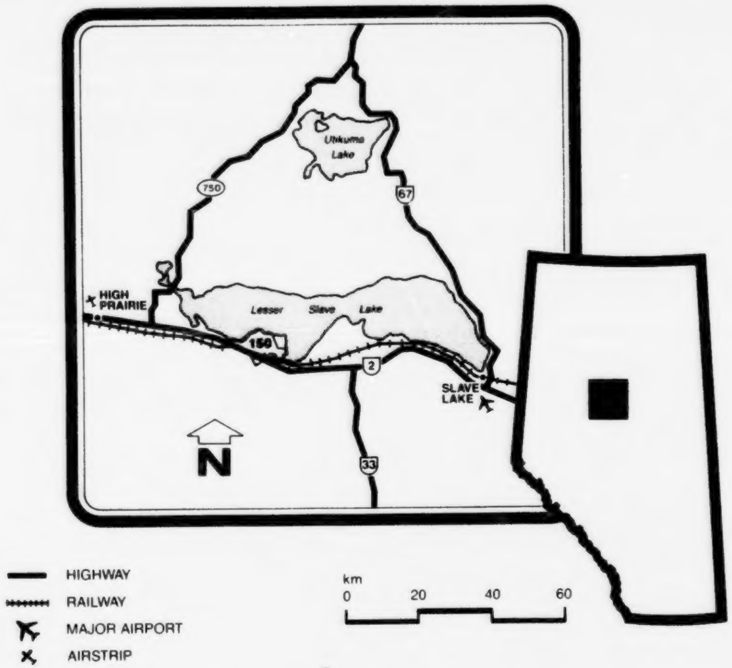
Government

LOCAL: The Band is governed by life-time traditional Chief Henry Colo-Chonkolay and a Council of three Elders and three elected Councillors.

Address: DENE THA INDIAN BAND
Box 120
Chateh, Alberta
T0H 0S0

Comments

Driftpile



Location

Situated 65 kms. west of the Town of Slave Lake, the Driftpile Reserve covers an area of 6,351 hectares (15,688 acres). Primary Highway #2 runs east/west through the Reserve. It is located in Improvement District #17.

History

Treaty #8, signed in 1899, allocated the area around Driftpile and Lesser Slave Lake to the five Cree Bands. They were regarded as one Band and shared the land jointly.

As farming activity developed, families moved to the more fertile lands around Driftpile.

The Reserve was surveyed in 1901 with additional land being granted due to increasing population.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 785 people. This figure includes both on and off-Reserve members.

Economic Base

Agriculture is the main activity on the Reserve. A mixed farming operation involves 180 cattle and 121 hectares (300 acres) of crop land. A community garden supplies fresh vegetables and the surplus is sold in neighbouring areas.

Logging potential is promising. The Band employs 12 members at a sawmill on the Reserve. The lumber from the mill is sold in Edmonton. Fire fighting and reforestation projects also provide local employment.

Guiding, fishing and trapping activity contribute to the Band's income. Pack and saddle horses are also raised.

The Band Administration Office employs 13 staff members.

There is also a handicraft outlet on the Reserve.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is primary Highway #2. There are 80 kms. of internal all-weather gravel road.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot in High Prairie, 30 kms. west of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: The nearest major airport is located in the Town of Slave Lake.

BUS SERVICE: The Greyhound Bus Line makes a flag-stop at the Reserve. Services are available east and west twice daily.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is hauled by truck from Faust and stored in cisterns. All homes have indoor plumbing. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. The main home heating sources are propane, oil and wood.

RECREATION: A recreation complex has recently been completed. It includes facilities for social events plus an arcade, a poolroom and a cultural room. The Band also maintains three baseball diamonds and an outdoor skating rink.

Education

The High Prairie School Division offers kindergarten to grade nine on the Reserve. Secondary students are bussed to a school in Faust. A Community Vocational Centre offers upgrading and post-secondary courses.

Services

HEALTH SERVICE: A health unit, a resident health nurse and workers and a dental therapist are located on the Reserve. Additional medical services are available in the Town of High Prairie.

POLICE: The Faust R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services. There is a Band Constable and a Band By laws Officer located on the Reserve.

Commercial Activity

The nearest banking facility is located in Kinuso. The Reserve has a general store/handicrafts outlet and a gas station. There is a Post Office, a Band Office and Band farm buildings located on the Reserve. Additional commercial services are available in the town of Slave Lake.

Communications

Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio reception is from Peace River, Grande Prairie and Edmonton radio stations. CBC and CTV broadcasts are also received in this area. The Slave Lake Leader/Scope, Alberta Native News and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper service.

Government

The Reserve is governed by a Chief and seven Councillors. The Driftpile Reserve is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

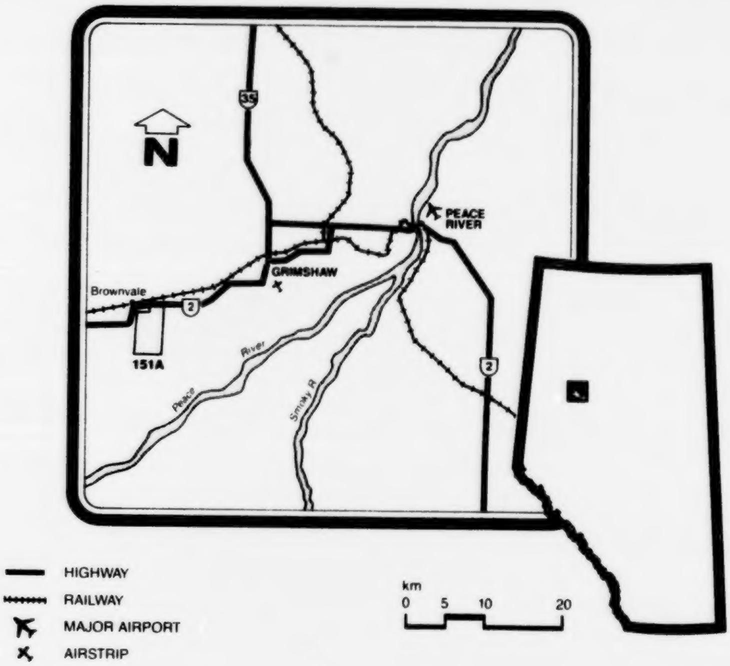
Address: DRIFTPILE BAND
General Delivery
Driftpile, Alberta
T0G 0V0

Other Organizations

Some of the other committees and societies located on the Reserve are: Native Cultural Society, Arts and Crafts Society, Concerned Citizens Society, Education Committee, and the Community Organization Recreation Driftpile (CORD).

Comments

Duncan's Band



Location

The Duncan's Band Reserve, also known as the William McKenzie Reserve, is situated 44 kms. west of the Town of Peace River and 8 kms. southwest of the village of Brownvale. It encompasses 2,426 hectares (5,995 acres).

History

Duncan Tustawits, the first leader of the Band, signed Treaty #8 in 1899. He was a remarkable leader who could speak English, French, Beaver, Chippewa, Chipewyan, and his native tongue, Cree. The Band is named after him.

Spanish influenza struck the Band in 1918, killing Duncan and most of his 18 children.

Population

A 1985 source indicated the population of Duncan's Band to be 63 people.

Economic Base

The economy of Duncan's Band is based on agriculture and forestry.

The land is capable of supporting agricultural crops which could produce above-average yields of grain. Some land is leased to farmers in the surrounding area.

Land clearing has been undertaken for a subdivision. The nearby creek is being cleaned up due to an over-population of beavers.

Most employment opportunities are found off the Reserve.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 passes north of the Reserve. Eleven kilometres of internal road are gravelled and maintained by Municipal District #135 — Grimshaw.

RAILWAY: Brownvale, eight kms. east, has a Canadian National Railway depot which provides freight services.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Peace River. There is a grass landing strip in Grimshaw.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers flag-stop service to the Band. Grimshaw Trucking is available for freight service.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is available from a community well. Alberta Power supplies electricity to all homes. The major sources of home heating are wood and oil.

RECREATION: Recreational facilities are available in Brownvale or Berwyn. There is a Band hall on the Reserve which is used for social events.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Berwyn and Grimshaw.

Services

HEALTH: The nearest hospital is in Grimshaw. A health nurse visits the community regularly.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Brownvale fire department offers fire protection services.

POLICE: The Grimshaw R.C.M.P. Detachment, 20 kms. east of the Reserve, offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to Berwyn and Grimshaw for retail services.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio broadcast reception is from CJXX-Grande Prairie, CKYL-Peace River and CBC-FM. Television reception is CBC and CFRN. Newspapers are Mile Zero Grimshaw, North Peace Pictorial, Fairview Post, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Native News and the Peace River Record Gazette.

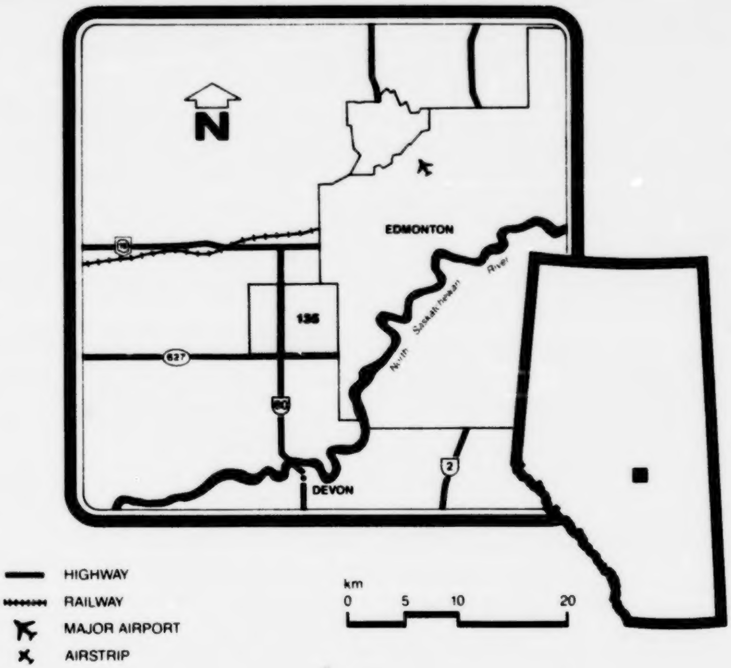
Government

LOCAL: The Band is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.Duncan's Band is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: DUNCAN'S BAND
Box 148
Brownvale, Alberta
T0H 0L0

Comments

Enoch



Location

The Enoch Reserve, also known as the Stony Plain Reserve, is located approximately 19 kms. west of Edmonton and about one kilometre. south of Highway #16 West. The Reserve is divided from north to south by Highway #60 and covers an area of 5,244 hectares (12,960 acres). The Enoch Reserve is located in County #25.

History

Members of the Enoch Reserve trace their ancestry to the Woodland Cree Nation. They were one of the most extensive and widespread Indian Nations in Canada. Their hunting grounds ranged from Hudson Bay to the Rocky Mountains. They shared this area with Ojibwa and Assiniboine Indians and as hunters and trappers were the mainstay of the fur-trade in the 1780's.

By the 1800's, the Woodland Cree traded with trading posts along the North Saskatchewan River. By the 1890's, they were joined by the Metis who also became involved with the fur trade.

Treaty #6, was signed in 1876 and residential schools were established in present-day St. Albert. The Enoch Reserve #135 is located near Stony Plain.

Population

A 1984 census indicated the population of the Enoch Reserve to be 872 people.

Economic Base

This oil rich Reserve also has 2,429 hectares (6,000 acres) in the Wildwood area. The mainly flat agricultural land produces grain, wheat, oats, barley, canola and hay crops. The band has the third largest hay operation in Alberta.

Much of the land could also be used for raising cattle.

The Reserve's close proximity to the City of Edmonton provides potential employment opportunities.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access road to the Reserve is Highway #60. A paved road runs through the Reserve. Other internal roads consist of gravel and dirt.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depots are located in Edmonton and are operated by Canadian National Railway and Canadian Pacific Railway.

AIRPORT: The closest airport is located in Edmonton.

BUS SERVICE: Daily bus service, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is available to the Reserve.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All homes have running water and indoor plumbing facilities. A pipe system and lagoon provides sewage disposal. Natural gas is used for home heating are

RECREATION: Facilities include a recreation centre, an arena and recreation grounds. There is also a race track and stables located on the Reserve which is used by professional thoroughbred and harness racers.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students in grades one to nine attend school on the Reserve. The school is operated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and also serves the non-Native population in the area. Pre-secondary and secondary students are bussed to schools in Spruce Grove or Edmonton.

Services

HEALTH: The Enoch Administration Building houses a health clinic which includes a doctor and dental office as well as a dental therapist. There is also the Institute of Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitiation.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve's fire department is located in the administration buildings. The Band employs a fire chief and there is a volunteer brigade.

POLICE: The Tribal Police offer protection to the Reserve.

Commercial Activity

Numerous enterprises which serve as a source of income for the Band include, Enoch Stables, cattle farm, carpentry shop, school bus operations, Enoch Land Development and a Band farm and ranch. A store, gas station and laundromat serve the Reserve members as well.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone service. The Enoch Reserve receives all Edmonton radio and television broadcasts. The Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provides newspaper services.

Government

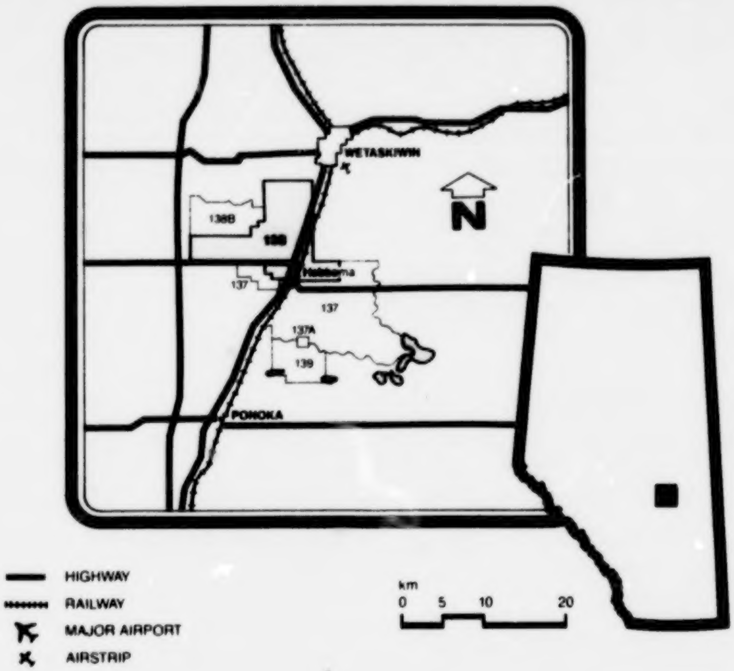
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors.

The Enoch Band is a member of the Yellowhead Tribal Chiefs Council.

Address: ENOCH BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 2, Site 2 RR#1
Winterburn, Alberta
T0E 2N0

Comments

Ermineskin



Location

The Ermineskin Reserve #138 lies 80 kms. south of Edmonton and covers an area of 10,295 hectares (25,441 acres). The major commercial centre of Hobbema is located in the southwest corner of the Reserve. The Reserve is situated in County #10.

History

In the mid-1800's, the Band traded furs between Fort Edmonton and present-day Hobbema. Ermineskin, a Cree Chief, decided to take up residence in Hobbema where he and his people established a more settled lifestyle. They signed Treaty #6 in 1876.

After settling on the Reserve, churches and schools were constructed by Roman Catholic missionaries. The discovery of oil at Enoch and Hobbema, has lead to improved health and education services. The Band has also had more funds for local improvements.

Population

A 1984 source indicated the population of the Ermineskin Band to be 1,530 people.

Economic Base

About 95% of Reserve land is capable of supporting agricultural crops such as wheat, oats, barley, canola, perennial forage crops and vegetables. Cattle-raising is also a source of income.

The Reserve has rich deposits of oil and gas and receives an annual royalty payment, based on it's population, from the Four Band Council.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is Highway #2. Secondary Highway #611 and Highway #2A also lead to this area. The internal roads on the Reserve are paved and gravelled.

RAILWAY: The Canadian Pacific Railway line runs through the Reserve. The nearest railway depot is located in Wetaskwin.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is also located in Wetaskwin.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service from a depot in Hobbema.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from a reservoir and from individual wells. Sewage disposal is by sewage lagoons. Natural gas serves as a source of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a recreation centre, an arena, skating rink, picnic areas, swimming pool, curling rink and rodeo grounds.

Education

SCHOOL: Kindergarten to grade 10 is available on the Reserve. Students attending grades 11 and 12 are bussed to Wetaskwin. The Muskwachees Cultural College, offering academic, cultural and audio-visual programs is located on the Reserve.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing centre and ambulance provide the Ermineskin Band with medical care.

FIRE PROTECTION: A resident fire brigade offers fire protection to this area.

POLICE: The Four Bands have their own Tribal Police Force who serve the four Reserves along with the Wetaskiwin R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A general retail and grocery store, laundromat, gas station, service station, day-care centre and post office serve the people of Ermineskin Reserve.

Communications

Radio and TV reception are from various Calgary and Edmonton stations. Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone services. The Beaver Hills Native Voice and the Peace Hills Country are locally published newspapers. The Edmonton dailies, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Alberta Native News, and Kainai News also provide newspaper services.

Government

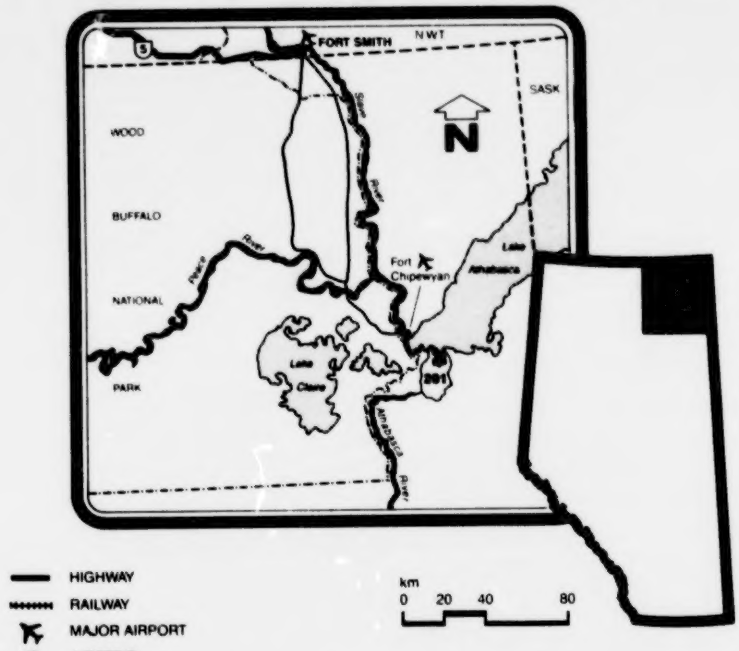
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and 12 Councillors.

The Ermineskin Band is part of the Four Bands Administration.

Address: FOUR BANDS ADMINISTRATION
Box 279
Hobbema, Alberta
T0C 1N0

Comments

Fort Chipewyan



Location

Fort Chipewyan is situated at the extreme northwestern tip of Lake Athabasca in Improvement District #17. It is approximately 225 air kms. north of Fort McMurray and 610 air kms. northeast of Edmonton.

History

Fort Chipewyan is Alberta's oldest continuous European settlement dating back to 1798 when the North West Company established an outpost there. After the merger with the Hudson Bay Company in 1821, Fort Chipewyan became known as the Capital of the North.

As the demands for fur increased, the lifestyle of the nomadic Cree, Chipewyan and the Beaver Indians in this area was significantly altered. These groups traded at the Fort each spring and fall and, due to prolonged visits, some people began to use it as a base.

The signing of Treaty #8 drew more people to the area.

Population

Fort Chipewyan consists of four distinct groups: The Cree Indian Band, the Chipewyan Indian Band, the Metis and non-Native people. Population estimates for the groups are: 1,058 Cree, 309 Chipewyan, 300 Metis, and 100 non-Native, bringing the total population to 1,767 people. Allowing for off-Reserve and seasonal flucuations, an estimated 1,500 people live in Fort Chipewyan year around.

Economic Base

The three major resource based activities in Fort Chipewyan are trapping, fishing and lumbering.

Some revenue has been generated by commercial fishing. Until last year, the catch was sent to Fort Smith for processing, however, the Delta Native Fishermen's Association is in the process of constructing a fish processing plant in Fort Chipewyan.

Logging activity employs some people. Seasonal fire-fighting opportunities supplement some member's income.

The development of unique high quality granite deposits is a possibility, but may not be economically feasible for some time.

A proposed hydro-electric dam on the Slave River near the North West Territories border could offer employment and business opportunities. There is potential for both wild rice production and the enhancement of muskrat habitats through water management in the region.

The region's scenic and historic resources offer tourism development opportunities.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The only vehicle access to Fort Chipewyan is via a winter road from Fort Smith, 140 kms. north. Air service from Fort McMurray and Edmonton provides residents with food and clothing. During the summer, river barges are used to transport goods to the community. Fort Chipewyan has a paved airstrip and a float plane base. There is, at Present, no rail or bus service to this community.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Alberta Power operates a local generating plant which provides residential electricity. A new water and sewage system has recently been completed with most residents receiving service. The main sources of home heating are wood and oil.

RECREATION: Facilities include a curling rink, skating rink, baseball diamond and a community centre.

Education

SCHOOLS: There are two schools in Fort Chipewyan. One school, operated by the Northlands School Division, offers grades one to three. The other school offers grades four to 12 and is under the administration of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. A new school offering kindergarten to grade 12 will be completed in the near future. The Keyano College, based in Fort McMurray, offers upgrading and post-secondary courses in the community.

Services

HEALTH: A federal Health and Welfare nursing station is staffed by five nurses and is visited by a doctor two days a week. Dentists and Optometrists are flown in periodically. Emergency and long-term medical care is available in Edmonton or Fort McMurray.

FIRE PROIECTION: There is a volunteer fire department, two pumper units and a water truck for fire protection services.

POLICE: Fort Chipewyan is served by a resident R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Major water routes in all four directions is one of the primary assets of Fort Chipewyan. Most goods are flown in during the winter months or are brought by barge in the summer. The Hudson Bay Company has a retail outlet. The Cre-Met-Chip Co-op, jointly owned by the two Bands and the Metis Local, provides groceries and dry-goods. There are two small grocery stores, three restaurants, three hotels and lodges, a service station, a gas bar and a local handicrafts outlet. The Treasury Branch operates a sub-office there. Basic trade service, such as plumbing, carpentry, electrical work etc., is available.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. CBC's Northern Radio and Television Service, plus satellite-receiving dishes, provide broadcast media service. The Slave River Journal (Fort Smith), the Edmonton Journal and the Fort McMurray Today newspapers are brought in. Fort Chipewyan has a community newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: Fort Chipewyan operates under the following groups of government:

The Cree Indian Band is governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

Address: The CREE INDIAN BAND
Box 90
Fort Chipewyan, Alberta
T0P 1B0

The Chipewyan Indian Band is governed by a Chief and three Councillors.

Address: The CHIPEWYAN INDIAN BAND
Box 366
Fort Chipewyan, Alberta
T0P 1B0

There are 11 federal and provincial government agencies and services in Fort Chipewyan.

There is also an Advisory Council in Fort Chipewyan which consists of one Chairman and four Board members.

Address: The FORT CHIPEWYAN ADVISORY COUNCIL
General Delivery,
Fort Chipewyan, Alberta
T0P 1B0

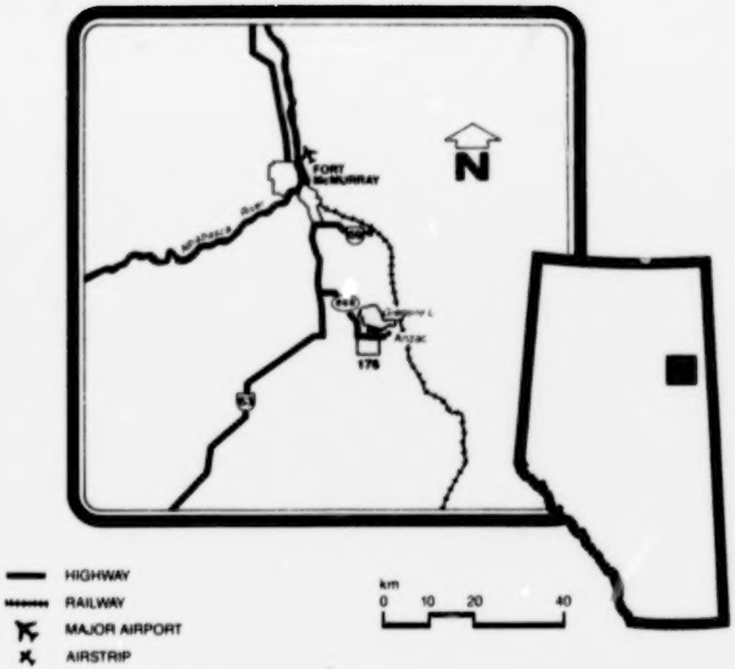
Other Organizations

The Metis Association of Alberta Local #124 and the Delta Native Fishermen's Association are present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Fort McMurray



Location

The Fort McMurray Reserves consist of four areas. Reserve #175 is located about 20 kms. east of Fort McMurray. The other three areas, Reserve #176, #176A and #176B are located near Anzac on Gregoire Lake approximately 50 kms. southeast of Fort McMurray. Gregoire Lake #176 is the largest and most heavily occupied. The total area of the Reserves is 3,223 hectares (7,965 acres).

History

The Fort McMurray Band trace their history back to the Cree and Chipewyan Indians of Alberta. The Band signed adhesion to Treaty #8 in 1899.

The Fort McMurray and the Fort MacKay were originally part of the same Band, but divided in 1949.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 140 Band members, though a majority do not live on the Reserve.

Economic Base

The economic base for the Fort McMurray Band is presently geared towards the oil industry.

The main sources of employment have been the Syncrude, Suncor, Petro-Canada and Amoco sites, along with employment found in the City of Fort McMurray. Oil sands exploration on the Reserves has income potential for the Band. The Band also does some contract work for the oil companies, such as pallet manufacturing.

Other sources of seasonal employment can be found in the forest industry with fire-fighting, reforestation and slashing activities.

Hunting and trapping is used mainly as a supplementary income.

There is potential for tourism development on the Reserve beach property of Gregoire Lake.

Agricultural potential exists in the form of hay, oats and barley production.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access into Gregoire Lake is from secondary Highway #868. The Reserve has all-weather gravel roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot is located in Anzac, and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Fort McMurray, about 20 kms. north of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus service is the Anzac flag-stop at the junction of Highway #63 and secondary Highway #868.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is hauled in from Fort McMurray and stored in holding tanks. Sewage disposal is through indoor plumbing and a sewage lagoon. Electricity is supplied to the residents by Alberta Power. Homes are heated by propane and heating oil.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a baseball diamond, skating rink, Band hall, pow-wow grounds and access to beaches on Gregoire Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: The nearest school is located in Anzac and serves grades one to six. Students in grades seven to 12 are bussed to Fort McMurray.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a visiting public health nurse.

FIRE PROTECTION: Facilities on the Reserve consist of a fire truck and a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by a Fort McMurray R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

The Band owns a pallet construction shop, a blanket manufacturing company, and a gas co-op. They are presently constructing a retail complex and developing tourist facilities on the Gregoire Lake beach property. Additional retail and service industries are located in Fort McMurray.

Communication

Telephone service is supplied by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton and Fort McMurray. The Fort McMurray Today and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

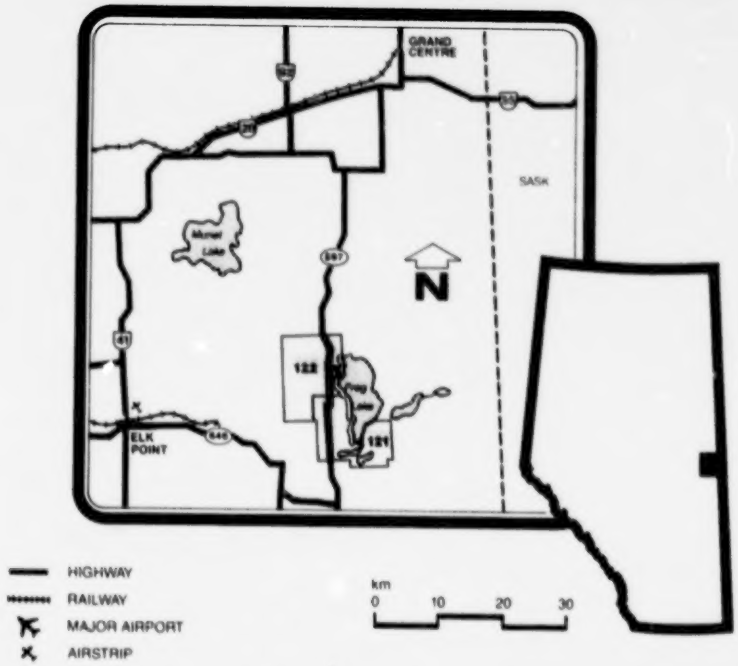
Address: FORT McMURRAY INDIAN BAND
Box 8217
Fort McMurray, Alberta
T9H 4JI

Other Organizations

There is the Gregoire Ladies Society on the Reserve.

Comments

Frog Lake



Location

The Frog Lake Indian Reserves are located approximately 54 kms. south of Grand Centre.

Reserve #121 is situated on the southeast corner of Frog Lake and encompasses 8,506 hectares (21,019 acres). Reserve #122 is located on the west side of Frog Lake and covers 10,339 hectares (25,548 acres).

Both Reserves are located in Improvement District #18.

History

Members of the Frog Lake Band have ancestral ties with the Plains Cree Indian Nation.

In 1879, Unipoukios Reserve #121 and Puskiokiwenin Reserve #122 were established as two separate entities under Treaty #6. In 1914, the two Bands amalgamated to form the Frog Lake Band.

Population

A 1981 census indicated 885 Band members, though the on-Reserve population is slightly less.

Economic Base

The Frog Lake Reserve has developed an economic strategy which is connected to the development of the Cold Lake heavy oil project.

About 50% of the two Reserves is capable of sustaining agricultural crops such as wheat, oats, barley, canola and perennial forages.

There are several cow/calf operations. The major employer on the Reserve is the Band Administration.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserves is secondary Highway #895. The Reserve has approximately 35 kms. of gravel and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in Elk Point, 35 kms. west of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Elk Point.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Elk Point.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Most of the homes on the Reserve have electricity from Alberta Power. A majority of the homes haul water to cisterns although there are some residences with running water. Homes are heated by propane, oil or wood.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a baseball diamond, an outdoor skating rink, a gymnasium and rodeo grounds.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school on the Reserve, operated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, which offers kindergarten to grade 11. Grade 12 students are bussed to schools in Heinsburg.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing station located on the Reserve is visited regularly by a nurse from Lloydminster.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by the Elk Point R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

A general store is located just outside the Reserve boundary. Additional retail services are located in the surrounding communities.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Television broadcast reception is from CITL and CTV. Radio reception is from Edmonton, Camrose, St. Paul and Lloydminster. Newspapers available to the residents include the Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

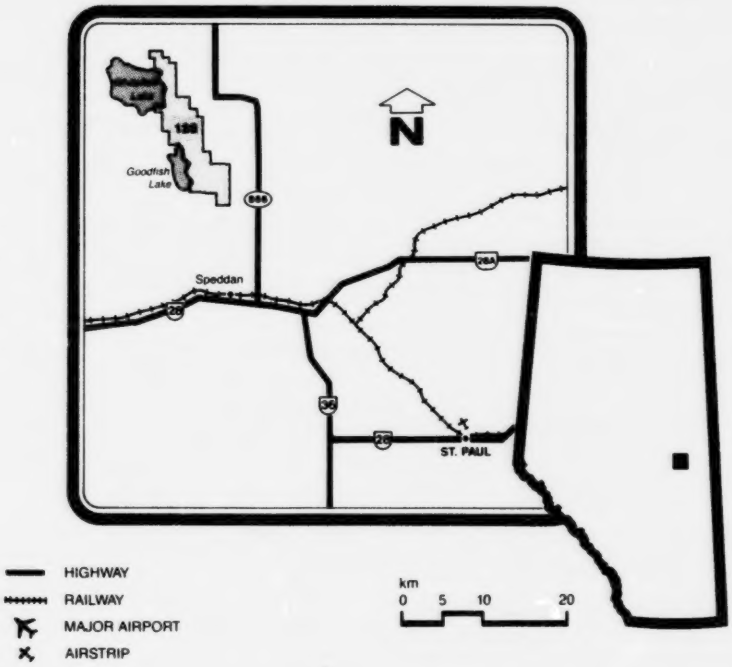
Frog Lake is a member of the Northeast Tribal Chiefs Association.

Address: FROG LAKE INDIAN RESERVE
General Delivery,
Frog Lake, Alberta
T0A 1M0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Goodfish (Whitefish Lake)



Location

The Whitefish Lake Reserve, also known as Goodfish Lake Reserve, is located 55 kms. southeast of the Town of Lac La Biche. The Reserve encompasses 4,534 hectares (11,200 acres) and is located in County #19.

History

Members of Goodfish Lake and Saddle Lake are part of the same historical Cree Indian Band although they presently live on separate Reserve lands.

The two present Reserve areas were settled between 1700 and 1777. Missions were established in the area in the late 1850's by the Methodist and Roman Catholic Churches.

Reverend Henry Bird Steinhauer, an Ojibway missionary from Ontario, came to Whitefish Lake and encouraged farming and education.

In 1876, Treaty negotiations with the federal government were underway for Reserve land. Final surveys for Goodfish and Saddle Lake Reserves were made and confirmed in 1899, under Treaty #6.

Population

A 1985 source indicated 1,100 Band members, though the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The major source of revenue for the Whitefish Lake Reserve is from oil-well royalties which are shared with the Saddle Lake Band.

The primary source of employment is the Band Administration Office.

Cattle raising is being developed as an industry on the Reserve and is Band-owned.

The Goodfish Lake Development Corporation is involved in manufacturing work clothing and industrial dry cleaning.

Seasonal employment is found in forestry activities.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Reserve is accessible from secondary Highway #866. Internal roads are gravel and total about 90 kms.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in St. Paul.

AIRPORT: There is a paved and lighted airstrip at St. Paul, 65 kms. east of the Reserve.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from central plumbing in the core area. Outlying residents obtain water from a reservoir. Some homes have operating wells. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are propane and oil.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include an indoor arena, five baseball diamonds and a rodeo/recreational park. There is also a developed beach area on Whitefish Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: An elementary school is located on the Reserve and is operated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Pre-secondary and secondary students are bussed to Ashmont. There is also a daycare centre and a playschool on the Reserve.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing station is located on the Reserve with a nurse, two community health workers and a visiting doctor.

FIRE PROTECTION: One fire hall with a pumper unit manned by a volunteer fire brigade is located on the Reserve.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by the St. Paul R.C.M.P. Detachment in conjunction with its own Tribal Police Force.

Commercial Activity

There is an individually-owned general store, industrial dry cleaning plant and garment factory located on the Reserve. Additional retail and service industries are located in Vilna about 15 kms. south of the Reserve.

Communications

Telephone service is available from Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton, St. Paul, Lloydminster and Camrose. Newspapers available to the residents include the Edmonton dailies and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta.

Government

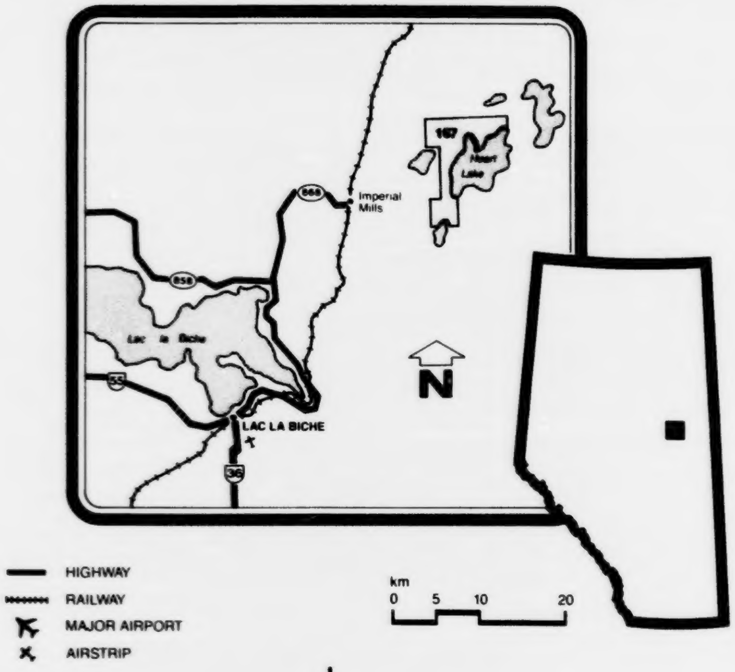
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and three Councillors.

Whitefish Lake Reserve is a member of the Northeast Tribal Chiefs Association.

Address: WHITEFISH LAKE BAND
ADMINISTRATION
General Delivery,
Goodfish Lake, Alberta
T0A 1R0

Comments

Heart Lake



Location

The Heart Lake Indian Reserve is located approximately 80 kms. northeast of Lac La Biche in Improvement District #18. The Reserve encompasses 4,496 hectares (11,110 acres).

History

A majority of the Band members are of Chipewyan descent and are associated with the Chipewyan Indians of Cold Lake. They signed Treaty #8 in 1889. Heart Lake Reserve was established in 1915, and was once moved to where Imperial Mills is presently located. After a survey it was returned back to its original location and is administered under Treaty #8.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 107 Band members, although the on-Reserve figure is slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Heart Lake Reserve is directly related to the forestry, oil and gas industries.

Some residents find seasonal employment in the lumbering industry by oil-field clearing, slashing and winter-logging on the Reserve.

The Band receives oil royalties from producing wells.

They are also working to improve tourism potential in the area and have developed a three-acre campground facility on the shores of Heart Lake.

Agricultural potential exists in the form of raising livestock and short season vegetables.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to Heart Reserve is Highway #868 from Lac La Biche. There are 25 kms. of internal gravel and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Imperial Mills.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Lac La Biche.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Lac La Biche.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All the homes have indoor plumbing and septic tanks. Some of the homes have electricity. The main home heating sources are propane, wood or oil.

RECREATION: There is a baseball diamond on the Reserve.

Education

SCHOOLS: The R.B. Kohls school, operated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, offers grades one to eight. Secondary students are bussed to schools in Lac La Biche.

Services

HEALTH: There is a health clinic on the Reserve and a public health nurse visits twice a week.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has one fire truck and firehall with a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by the Lac La Biche R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Residents travel to Lac La Biche for retail services.

Communications

Television broadcast reception is from Edmonton. Radio reception is from Edmonton, St. Paul and Camrose. Telephone services are from Alberta Government Telephones. The Edmonton dailies, Lac La Biche Post, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Kainai News provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

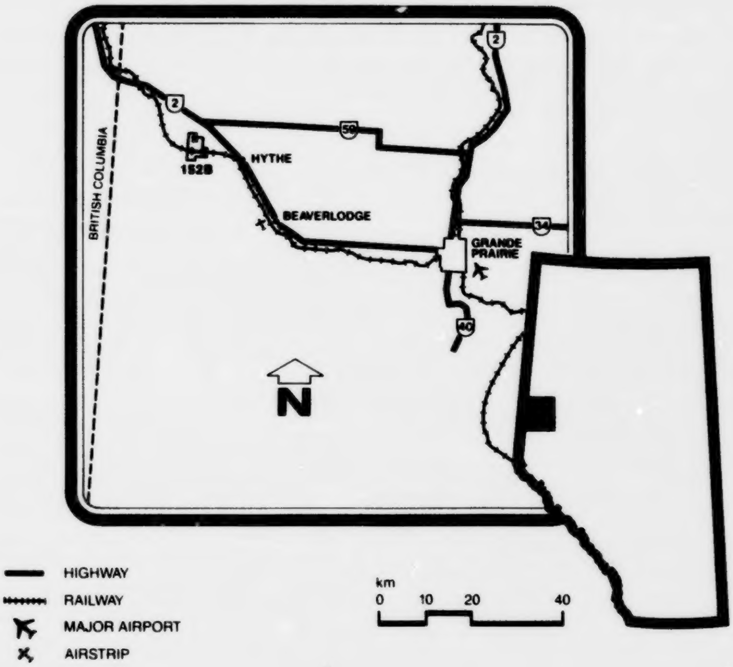
The Heart Lake Band is a member of the Northeast Tribal Chiefs Association.

Address: The HEART LAKE BAND OFFICE
Box 447
Lac La Biche, Alberta
T0A 2C0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Horse Lake



Location

The Horse Lake Reserve is comprised of two areas, the Clear Hills Reserve in which very few people reside, and the Horse Lake Reserve which is the major community. Both Reserves are situated about 70 kms. northwest of the City of Grande Prairie and cover an area of about 3,099 hectares (7,658 acres).

The Horse Lake Reserves are located in Improvement District #16.

History

Members of the Horse Lake Band trace their ancestry to the Beaver and Cree Indian Nations, whose traditional hunting grounds extended as far as Fort St. John, British Columbia. They were known to the early settlers as the Rocky Mountain Indians.

In 1899, representatives of the federal government set out to negotiate Treaty #8. However, the meeting conflicted with the annual hunt. On May 30, 1900, adhesion to Treaty #8 was signed and Reserve lands were allocated to the Horse Lake Band.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 176 Reserve members.

Economic Base

The economy of the Horse Lake Band is based on agriculture, oil and gas development and the forestry industry.

Most of the land is suitable for agricultural development. There is a Band-owned farm which has cultivated 809 hectares (2,000 acres) and manages 80 head of cattle. The Reserve has six grain bins for storage. Oats, barley, canola and forage crops have greatest potential.

There is some revenue from oil and gas leases. The leases also provide seasonal employment for some Band members. A natural-gas field discovery in nearby Demmit holds the potential to employ members of the community.

Trapping and hunting provides some income but is used mainly for domestic purposes.

A clearing and landscaping company is operated by the Band.

Some revenue is generated by the sale of locally produced arts and crafts.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 runs east/west past the Reserve. All internal roads are gravel.

RAILWAY: Passenger and freight service is available from a Canadian National Railway depot in the Village of Hythe.

AIRPORT: The Reserve has leased land for a small aircraft landing strip. The nearest commercial airport is located in Grande Prairie, 85 kms. south of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers full passenger and freight service from Hythe.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from a water treatment plant. Sewage is disposed of through septic tanks and a holding lagoon. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Residential heating sources are wood and propane.

RECREATION: The Reserve has a community hall and a baseball park. Plans are underway for a recreation centre. Additional recreational facilities are available in Beaverlodge.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students in grades one to six are bussed to Hythe. Pre-secondary and secondary students attend schools in Beaverlodge. The Grande Prairie Regional College offers post-secondary education.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a resident community health worker. Medical facilities are located in Beaverlodge and Hythe.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Hythe volunteer fire brigade, which consists of 24 men, two pumper units and a fire hall, offers its services to the Reserve. Plans are currently underway for a Reserve fire hall and volunteer department.

POLICE: The Beaverlodge R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

All major amenities are available at Hythe and Beaverlodge. There is an arcade situated on the Reserve.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service to the Band. CFGP and CJXX-Grande Prairie radio stations broadcast to this area. Some members have satellite-receiving dishes. The Daily Herald Tribune, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and the Weekly Booster provide newspaper services.

Government

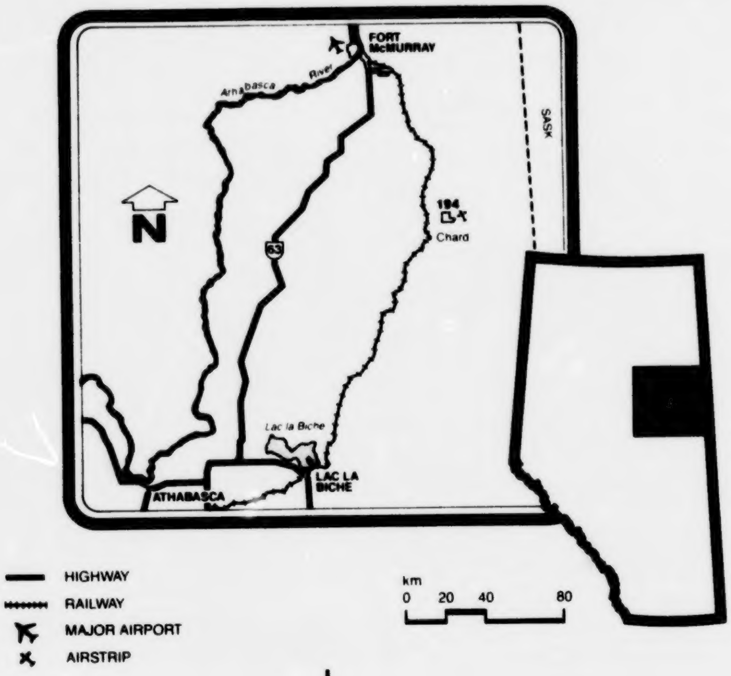
LOCAL: The Reserve is administered by one Chief and two Councillors.

It is also a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: HORSE LAKE INDIAN RESERVE
Box 303
Hythe, Alberta
T0H 2C0

Comments

Janvier



Location

Janvier is located 100 kms. southeast of Fort McMurray in Improvement District #18. It includes the Janvier Indian Reserve #194 and the Metis community on the northern border of the Reserve.

The Reserve is approximately 1,633 hectares (4,034 acres) in size.

History

Pierre Louison and Paul Janvier and their families were part of the Chipewyan Band of Indians who travelled and hunted over western Saskatchewan and eastern Alberta. They eventually established their base camp at Bohn Lake.

After the signing of Treaty #8, the Indian people of the Fort McMurray area did not immediately have a Reserve surveyed. In 1911, the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development made preparations to survey Indian lands. In 1922, the Janvier Reserve, which is locally known as Chipewyan Prairie, was surveyed in the vicinity of Bohn and Cowpar Lakes.

Population

A 1982 census indicated 267 Band members and 160 Metis people in Janvier.

Economic Base

The economic base for the community of Janvier is subject to short-term and seasonal employment which includes fire fighting, hunting, trapping, and government sponsored projects. The Alberta Opportunity Corp offers job training to the residents.

There is a sawmill located east of the central reserve area which offers some seasonal work. There are also a few sites for the development of market gardens.

The Janvier Reserve has potential for raising cattle and sheep.

Transportation Services

ROADS: There is no all-weather road to Janvier. Within the community, there is a 6 km. all-weather road connecting it to Chard and the Canadian National Railway site.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway Line from Lac La Biche to Fort McMurray stops in Chard, 6 kms. from the Reserve. Primarily for freight services, it does, however, offer limited passenger service.

AIRPORT: Janvier has a 1,220 metre, all-weather gravel airstrip.

BUS SERVICE: A depot is located in Lac La Biche and Fort McMurray.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from wells and the Christina River. Sewage disposal is through a sewage lagoon in the area. Electricity is obtained from diesel generators provided by Alberta Power. Most homes in the community are heated by wood, propane or natural gas.

RECREATION: Facilities include the school gymnasium and an outdoor skating and hockey rink.

Education

SCHOOLS: Northland School Division operates one school in Janvier, offering grades one to eight. It is located in the central area of the Reserve. Secondary students attend school in Fort McMurray or Edmonton.

Services

HEALTH: A nurse visits the community's public health clinic once a week.

POLICE: The community of Janvier is served by the Fort McMurray R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Businesses include a motel-restaurant, laundromat and two stores.

Communications

Telephone service is available from Alberta Government Telephones. The community receives some commercial radio and satellite-television broadcast reception. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper is available to the residents of Janvier.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

Address: JANVIER BAND
General Delivery,
Chard, Alberta
T0A 0S0

There is also a Community Association.

PROVINCIAL: The community is administered by Alberta Municipal Affairs Improvement District #18. Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC) and Alberta Opportunity Corp are present in the North Settlement area.

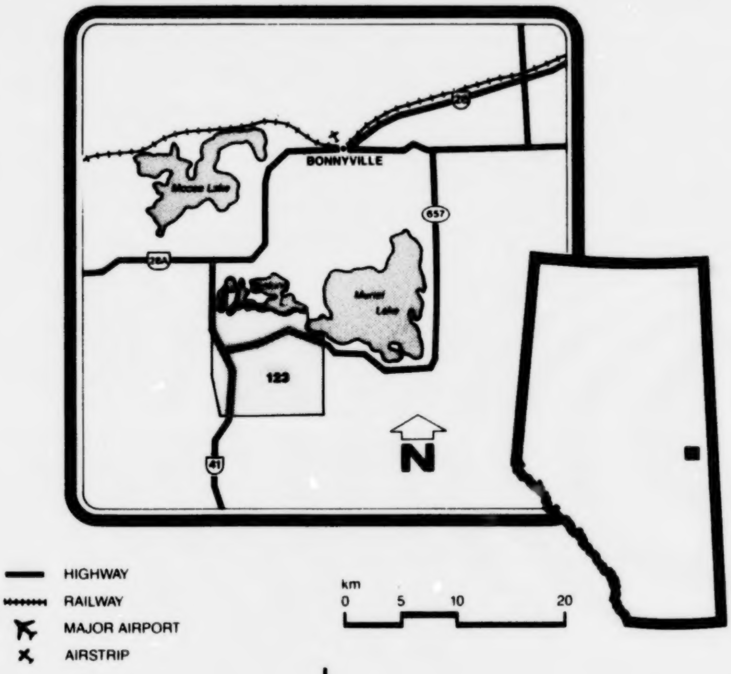
Other Organizations

Also present in the community is Metis Association of Alberta Local #214.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Kehewin



Location

The Kehewin Indian Reserve #123 is located 15 kms. south of Bonnyville in Improvement District #18. The Reserve encompasses 8,199 hectares (20,261 acres).

History

The Band received its name when Chief Kehewin signed Treaty #6 on behalf of his Band in 1876.

He led his Band of Plains Cree Indians to the wooded area bounded by the Moose Hills in the south and Kehewin Lake, Sinking Lake and Muriel Lake in the north.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 900 Band members though the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The Reserve Band Council has worked to develop an economic base via a number of special projects. The projects have been directed towards the service industries that may meet the requirements of the Cold Lake Oil Sands Development. The Pimmie Well Service and Kehewin Steel are Band-owned and operated.

Crops which have potential on Kehewin Reserve are oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

The Band also maintains a campsite on Muriel Lake which has further potential for development.

There is a doll factory which manufactures Treaty cabbage-patch dolls.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Kehewin Reserve is accessible from Highway #41 and secondary Highway #867 which run through the Reserve. The Reserve has approximately 35 kms. of gravelled and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: The closest depot is located in Bonnyville, 15 kms. north of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: The closest paved and lighted airstrip is located in Bonnyville.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Bonnyville.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All the houses on the Reserve have electrical service from Alberta Power. Water is obtained from a pump house located on Kehewin Lake. There is a new water system in the core area. Propane, wood and natural gas are the main home heating sources.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a baseball diamond, a rodeo complex, an outdoor skating rink, pow-wow grounds and a school gymnasium. There is also a new Senior Citizens' Lodge.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school on the Reserve, funded by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development and operated by the Band, offering kindergarten to grade nine. Students in secondary grades are bussed to schools in Bonnyville, Elk Point and St. Paul. There is also an adult education service on the Reserve.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a health clinic staffed by a public health nurse and a community health worker.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a fire hall with a fire truck and a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Reserve has a Tribal Police Force consisting of two Constables. It is complimented by the Bonnyville R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is a general store, weaving factory, doll manufacturing, Kehewin Construction Co. and a carpentry shop on the Reserve.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone services. Radio reception is from Edmonton, St. Paul, Lloydminster and Camrose. TV reception is from CBC, CKSA and CTV. The Edmonton dailies, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Kainai News, Bonnyville Nouvelle and the Bonnyville/Glendon Advantage provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors.

The Kehewin Reserve is a member of the Northeast Tribal Chiefs Association.

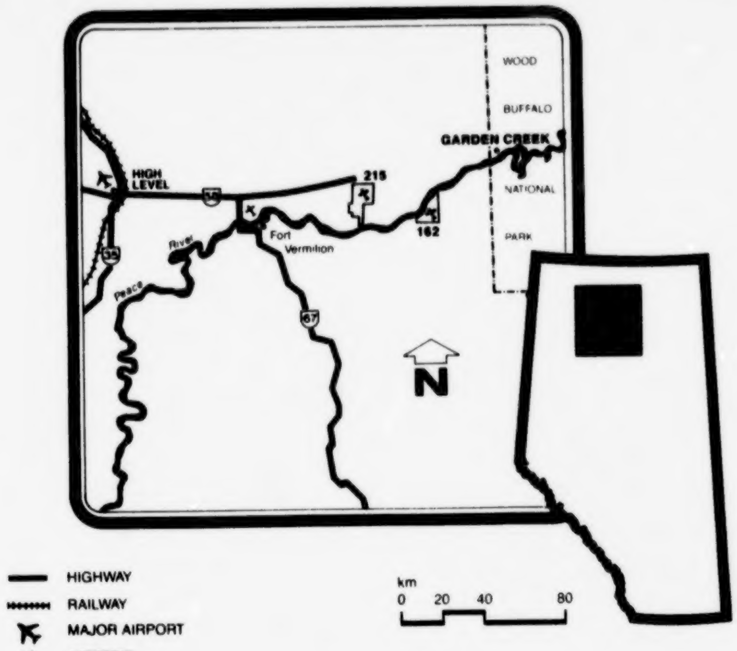
Address: KEHEWIN INDIAN RESERVE
Box 218
Bonnyville, Alberta
T0A 0L0

PROVINCIAL: Provincial representation on the Reserve is Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC).

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Little Red River



Location

The Little Red River Reserves includes two Reserve areas and one additional non-Reserve area.

Jean D'or Prairie Reserve #215 is located approximately 60 kms. east of Fort Vermilion below the Caribou Mountains. It extends over 14,034 hectares (34,678 acres).

Fox Lake Reserve #162 is located east of Fort Vermilion on the south side of the Peace River. It is 114 air kms. from Fort Vermilion and extends over 10,438 hectares (25,793 acres).

There are Band-members living in a non-Reserve community of Garden Creek which is located downstream from Jean D'or Prairie. It is situated just within the western boundary of the Wood Buffalo National Park approximately 200 air kms. east of High Level. The main vehicle access is via Highway #58 to Fox Lake and a 70 km. winter road to the settlement.

History

Members of the Little Red River Band have ancestral ties to the Woodland and the Bigstone Cree Indians in Wabasca.

The Headman of the Band entered into Treaty #8 on behalf of his people on July 8, 1899 in Fort Vermilion. In 1909 and 1910, land was surveyed and apportioned to the Band. Additional land was allocated to the Jean D'or Prairie Band as an influx of people from the Wabasca area settled with the Band.

Population

A 1984 census indicates the total Band population to be 1,567 people.

Economic Base

Some potential lies in the forestry industry and agriculture. Jean D'or Prairie is developing a Band farm and has broken approximately 1,133 hectares (2,800 acres).

Hunting and trapping have been the traditional occupation of most members and serve as a means of livelihood.

Fire-fighting provides some seasonal employment. There is a Band-owned logging company.

The health units and schools provide employment opportunities for some members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Jean D'or Prairie Reserve has approximately 15 kms. of all-weather gravel roads. A road crossing from Jean D'or Prairie to Fox Lake is accessible only during the winter months. The Fox Lake Reserve has approximately 20 kms. of roads and is accessible by approximately 94 kms. of winter road from Fort Vermilion.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in High Level.

AIRPORT: Jean D'or Prairie and Fox Lake have 1,100 metre (3,000 foot) grass landing strips for light aircraft. Peace Air operates a local service five times a week from Fort Vermilion to the Reserve. The closest commercial airport is located in High Level.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Fort Vermilion.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Jean D'or Prairie residents obtain water from water points, wells and a reservoir. Half of the homes on this Reserve have septic tanks for sewage disposal. Fox Lake obtains water from wells. A reservoir provides water to the teacherages, school and health unit. Both Jean D'or Prairie and Fox Lake have Alberta Power generator plants which furnish most of the homes with electricity. Wood is the main source of home heating. Propane is used in the schools, store and health unit.

RECREATION: The school gymnasium, baseball diamond and outdoor skating rinks serve as recreation facilities in Fox Lake. Jean D'or Prairie has a community hall and an outdoor skating rink.

Education

SCHOOLS: The schools at Fox Lake, Jean D'or Prairie and Garden Creek are under the administration of the Band and the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Each school offers grades one to nine except the school in Fox Lake which also offers grade 11. Students attending higher grades are boarded out of the communities.

Services

HEALTH: A new medical facility has been constructed on Jean D'or Prairie and includes a nursing station and residence. A new facility has also been completed in Fox Lake. A doctor flies in twice weekly. Garden Creek has a Federal Health Clinic. The nearest hospitals are located in Fort Vermilion and High Level.

FIRE PROTECTION: Fox Lake has a fire truck. Jean D'or Prairie has a Fire Chief and volunteer brigade.

POLICE: The R.C.M.P. Detachment in Fort Vermilion serves this area.

Commercial Activity

There is a privately-owned convenience store and a Hudson Bay store in Fox Lake. Garden Creek also has a privately-owned store. Major retail services are available in High Level.

Communications

A relay tower in Fox Lake facilitates television and radio broadcast reception in Jean D'or Prairie and Garden Creek. Telephone services are provided by Alberta Government Telephones. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provides newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The local government is composed of one Chief who administers all Reserve areas. There are separate Council bodies for each area totalling nine Councillors.

Address: LITTLE RED RIVER BAND
Box 1432
High Level, Alberta
T0H 1Z0

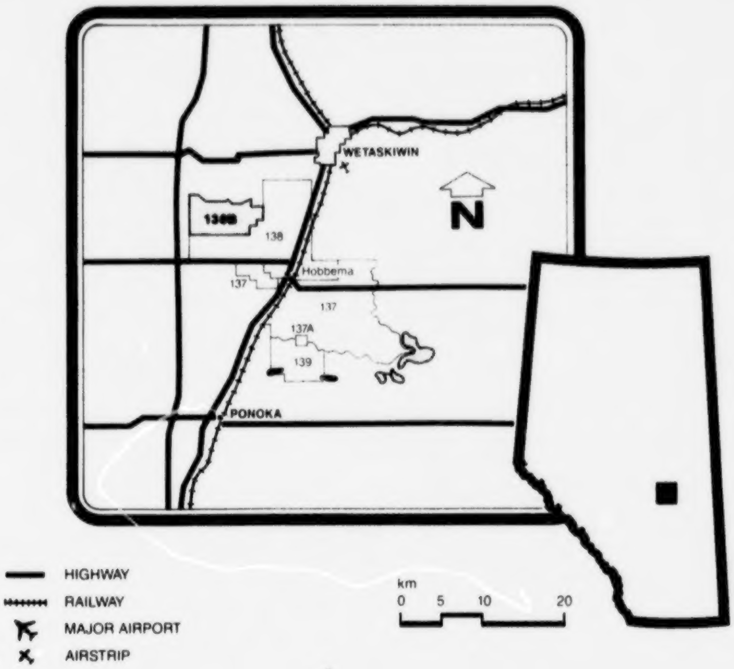
Other Organizations

Committees located on the Reserve are Health Committee and Education Committee. There is a Recreation Committee in Fox Lake.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Louis Bull



Location

The Louis Bull Reserve #138B is located approximately 17 kms. southwest of Wetaskiwin, in County #10. The Reserve encompasses 3,388 hectares (8,372 acres).

History

The Band was named after one of the first Chiefs.

The Band signed adhesion to Treaty #8 in September 1877 at Blackfoot Crossing.

The Louis Bull Band was originally part of the Ermineskin Band until 1909 when their own Reserve was established.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 776 Band members, though the on-Reserve population was less.

Economic Base

The economic base for the Louis Bull Band is primarily agriculture and ranching. About 72% of Reserve land has agricultural potential. Major crops which can be grown are wheat, oats, barley and canola.

The Band also receives oil and gas royalties from the Hobbema Four Band Administration based on their population.

The Band also owns a number of businesses that provide employment for Band members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is from primary Highway #2A. The Reserve has mainly all-weather gravel and dirt roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot is located in Wetaskiwin, and is operated by Canadian Pacific Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Wetaskiwin. There is a major airport located just south of Edmonton, 45 kms. north of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers service four times daily to a depot in Hobbema.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied to the residents by Trans Alta Utilities. Water is obtained from private wells. Sewage disposal is through sewage lagoons. Homes are heated by natural gas.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a baseball park, picnic area, playground and a community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students attending grades one to nine are bussed to the Ermineskin Reserve. Students in grades 10 to 12 attend schools in Wetaskiwin or Ponoka.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a nursing centre with one visiting nurse and two community health workers. Other medical facilities are located in Ponoka or Wetaskiwin.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve is served by a fire truck and a volunteer fire brigade from Hobbema.

POLICE: The Reserve is served by the Four Bands Tribal Police and the Wetaskiwin R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Some of the Band-owned businesses include Louis Bull Manufacturing Ltd., farm and ranch operations, Bull Ranch and Bus Co-op. Individually owned businesses on the Reserve include a cafe and a trucking company. Additional retail services are available in Hobbema, Ponoka and Wetaskiwin.

Communications

Television broadcast reception is from Edmonton. Radio reception is from Edmonton, Camrose, St. Paul and Red Deer. Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Newspaper services are provided by the Edmonton dailies, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Bear Hills Native Voice, and Kainai News.

Government

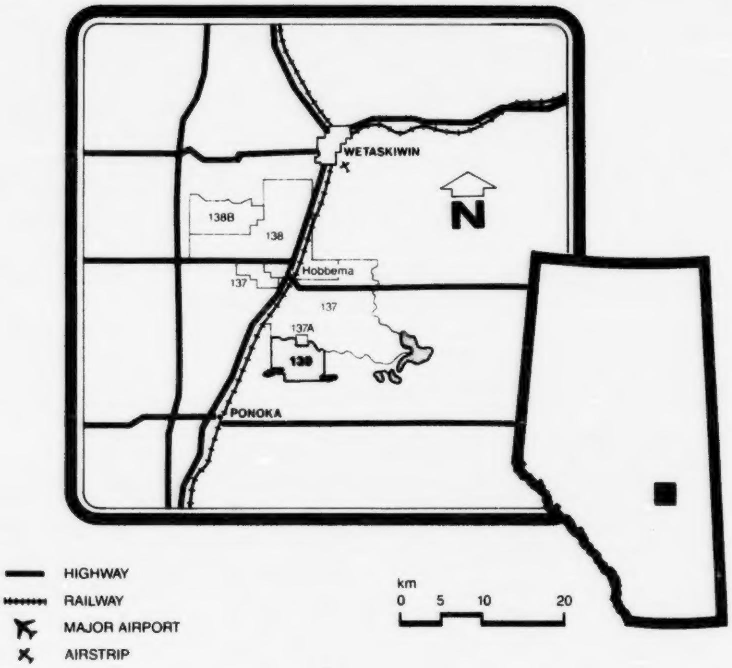
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors. The Louis Bull Band is a member of the Four Bands Council which is comprised of the Louis Bull, Samson, Montana and the Ermineskin Bands.

Address: LOUIS BULL BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 130
Hobbema, Alberta
T0C 1N0

PROVINCIAL: Provincial representation on the Reserve includes Alberta Education and Social Services and Community Health.

Comments

Montana



Location

The Montana Reserve is located approximately 25 kms. south of Wetaskiwin, in County #3. The Reserve encompasses 2,824 hectares (6,980 acres).

History

The Montana Indian Band signed Treaty #6 with the Plains Cree at Blackfoot Crossing in 1877, and settled near where Hobbema is presently located.

In 1890, the Band took the name Montana in memory of the years the Band had spent there. In 1909, the Band became a member of the Four Bands of Hobbema.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 441 Band members, although the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The Band receives an annual oil royalty payment, based on its population ratio, from the Four Bands Council.

The Band Council is seeking to diversify its economy by investing in agriculture and light industry.

Agriculture and ranching are important activities on the Reserve with about 78% of the soil capable of sustaining wheat, barley, oats, canola, perennial forages and vegetable crops.

The Band is also involved in heavy equipment operations, construction and housing on the Reserve.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is primary Highway #2A and #53. The Reserve has gravel and dirt internal roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot is operated by Canadian Pacific Railways in Wetaskiwin.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service from a depot in Hobbema.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in Wetaskiwin and a major airport is located in Edmonton.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by Trans Alta Utilities. Water is piped from a reservoir. Sewage disposal is through a sewage lagoon. Natural gas is used for home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a baseball diamond, rodeo grounds, a skating rink, a gymnasium, picnic area, recreation complex and a community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students from grades one to nine attend school on the Ermineskin Reserve. The school is operated by the federal Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Students from grades 10 to 12 are bussed to schools in Wetaskiwin or Ponoka.

Services

HEALTH: Residents of the four Reserves receive medical care from a health clinic located on the Ermineskin Reserve, which is staffed by three public health nurses and four community health workers. An ambulance, owned by the Samson Band, also serves the four Reserves.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserves have access to a fire hall, two fire trucks and a volunteer fire brigade which is located in Hobbema.

POLICE: The Four Bands have a Tribal Police Force who serve the four Reserves along with the Wetaskiwin R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Band-owned businesses on the Reserve include the Bobtail Farm and Ranch, a fence post operation, a truck-camper fabricating plant and the Bear Hills Native Voice newspaper. Additional retail services are available in Hobbema.

Communications

The Reserve receives TV and radio broadcast reception from Edmonton, Wetaskiwin and Red Deer. Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Newspapers available to the residents include Edmonton dailies, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Bear Hills Native Voice and Kainai News.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and three Councillors.

It is also a member of the Hobbema Four Bands Administration.

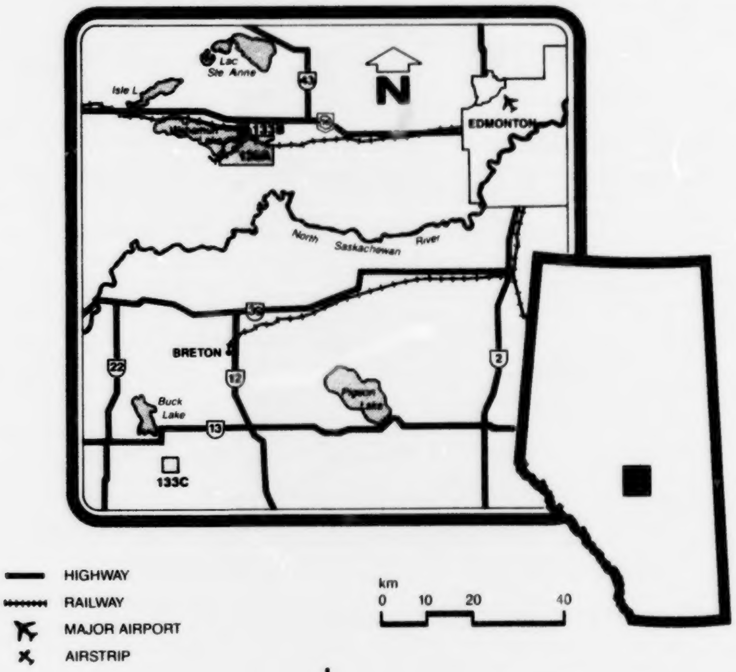
Address: MONTANA BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 70
Hobbema, Alberta
T0C 1N0

PROVINCIAL: Provincial representation on the Reserve includes the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC).

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Paul Band



Location

The Paul Band Reserves consist of three Reserve areas. Reserves #133A and #133B encompass an area of 6,294 hectares (15,554 acres). Both lie at the east edge of Lake Wabamun and a few kilometres south of Highway #16.

Reserve #133C (Buck Lake) covers an area of 1,035 hectares (2,558 acres) and lies 24 kms. south of Highway #13 on secondary road #761.

The Paul Band is located in County #31.

History

Members of the Paul Band trace their ancestral history to the Sioux Indian Nation. According to tradition, they separated from the Sioux Nation some time before 1640, moved northwards to Lake Winnipeg and, again, to the Rocky Mountains. During this time, they became strong allies of the Cree Indian Nation.

Their name originates from the term "Assinipwat" or Stone People, hence the term — Stoney Indians.

By 1876, the Stoney Indian Nation had divided into smaller Bands, the Paul Band being one of them. Lead by a Chief named Paul, they remained fairly isolated and hunted the area northwest of Edmonton. The Paul Band signed Treaty #6 in 1876 and settled on the shores of Lake Wabamun.

Population

A 1984 census indicates the population of the Paul Band to be 875 Band members, though the on-Reserve population is slightly less.

Economic Base

The economy of the Paul Band is derived from recreational development and mineral resources.

Reserves #133A and #133B have high potential for outdoor recreational development and waterfowl production. Almost 70% of the land on the three Reserves can be developed for the production of oats, barley, canola, perennial forage crops and medium to short season vegetables.

Sand and gravel deposits are a source of income for the Paul Band.

Oil and gas fields are located on the Reserves and the Band receives royalty payments.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #16 is the main access to Reserves #133A and #133B. Internal roads are gravel and dirt. Highways #12 and #13 serve as all-weather road access to Buck Lake. The internal roads on this Reserve are paved.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway line from Edmonton to Vancouver passes through

Reserves #133A and #133B. Railway service to Buck Lake is located at Breton, 15 kms. northeast of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Edmonton.

BUS SERVICE: Daily bus service, operated by Coachways Bus Lines, is available to all three Reserve areas.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is available from Alberta Power. The main source of home heating is natural gas. Private wells supply water. All homes are furnished with indoor plumbing and a sewage disposal is by a sewage lagoon.

RECREATION: Recreation facilities include an Activity and Drop-In Centre, baseball park, pool hall, library, pow-wow grounds and picnic areas.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten to grade seven is offered on the Reserve. The school is administered by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development. Pre-secondary and secondary students are bussed to schools in Stony Plain or Edmonton.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing station and clinic, housed in the Band Office, provides medical care.

FIRE PROTECTION: A fire station is located on Reserve #133A.

POLICE: A Tribal Police Station, housed in the Band Office, offers protection services.

Commercial Activity

A store, laundromat, gas station and carpentry and plumbing shop provide various services to the Reserves. The Paul Farm and Ranch and the recreation and beach development serve as other sources of commercial activity.

Communication

Alberta Govenment Telephones offers telephone service. Various radio stations are received in this area. Television broadcast reception is from CITV and CFRN-Edmonton. The Edmonton Journal and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

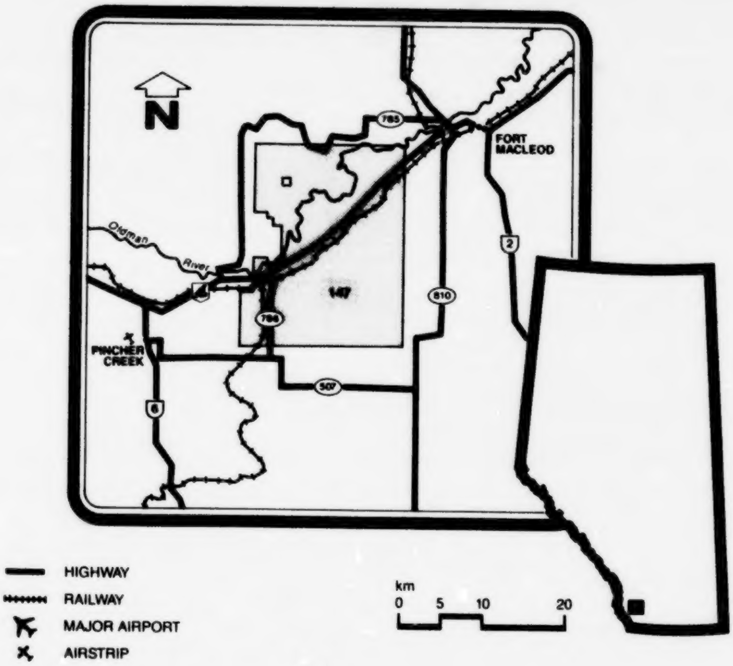
Government

LOCAL: A Chief and seven Councillors govern the three Reserves.

Address: PAUL BAND
Box 89
Duffield, Alberta
T0E 0N0

Comments

Peigan



Location

The Peigan Reserve is located approximately 60 kms. east of Lethbridge in Municipal District #9. The Reserves covers an area of approximately 45,609 hectares (112,656 acres) and is situated on land in southern Alberta which is bisected by the Oldman River.

History

The Peigan Band is a member of the Blackfoot Indian Nation and has traditional ties with the Peigan Band in Montana.

Due to a lack of fur in the Blackfoot hunting area, the lifestyle of the Peigan was not as significantly altered by the fur trade as the northern Alberta Bands. Consequently, a complex society was developed based on the buffalo and the horse.

A Reserve was surveyed in 1877 under the terms of Treaty #7 and was formally created as the Peigan Indian Reserve # 147.

In 1963, the Band was the first in Alberta to manage its own affairs, with the exception of a budget approval which is done by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 1,945 Band members, although the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base for the Peigan Reserve is generally geared toward agriculture and ranching. Over 70% of the land is suitable for farming and pasturing. Wheat, oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops offer most potential.

The Band receives monies for land leased to non-Band members.

The Band Administration is another source of employment for some Band members.

The Band has diversified to promote private and Band-owned businesses which provide employment on the Reserve.

The Band owns stands of marketable timber, a valuable natural resource.

Peigan Crafts employs a number of people in the production of Native handicrafts.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is from Highway #3 and secondary Highway #768. The

Reserve has approximately 215 kms. of internal paved and gravelled roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in Fort Macleod and is operated by Canadian Pacific Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Pincher Creek.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily bus service from a depot in Brocket.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Water is obtained from the Oldman River through a pipe system. Homes are heated by natural gas, though a few of the outlying homes use propane. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a skating rink, two baseball diamonds, a community hall, recreation complex and rodeo and pow-wow grounds.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Peigan Elementary School offers kindergarten to grade nine. Secondary students attend school in the nearby communities. A satellite campus of the Lethbridge Community College offers adult education, life skills and upgrading courses.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a health centre with daily visits from a public health nurse and a community health worker.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a fire-hall and one fire truck with a volunteer fire brigade.

POLICE: The Reserve has two Band Constables and is also served by the Fort Macleod R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Some of the Band-owned businesses on the Reserve include Peigan Crafts Ltd., Pe-Kun-Nee Garments, Peigan Ranches Ltd., Peigan Developments Ltd. and the Peigan Bus Co-Operative Ltd.

Some of the privately owned businesses include a grocery store, bulk fuel station, gas station and a handicraft outlet. Residents of the Reserve travel to Fort Macleaod and Pincher Creek for additional retail services.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception are from Lethbridge. Kainai News, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Bear Hills Native Voice, and the Lethbridge Herald provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and 10 Councillors.

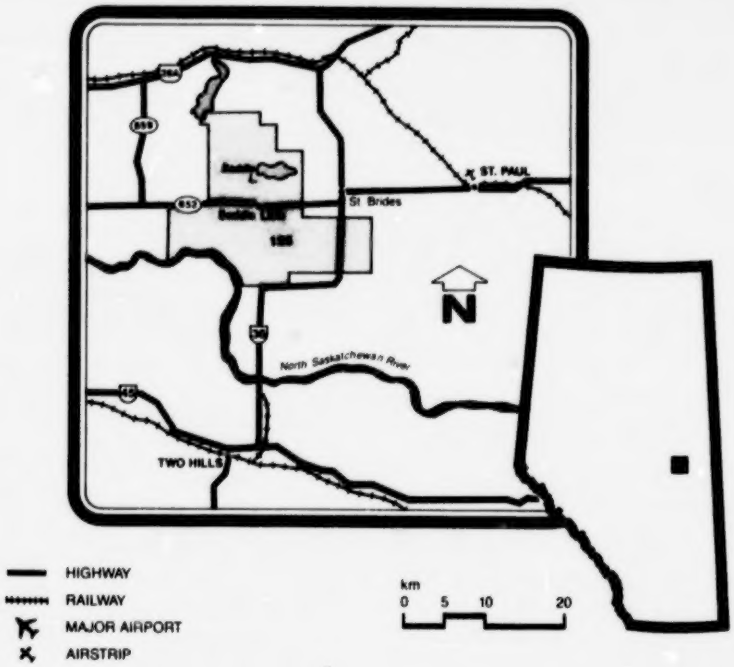
Address: PEIGAN BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 70
Brocket, Alberta
T0K 0H0

FEDERAL: There is a post office in the hamlet of Brocket.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Saddle Lake



Location

Saddle Lake Indian Reserve #125 is located approximately 25 kms. west of St. Paul in Improvement District #18. The Reserve encompasses 30,315 hectares (74,909 acres).

History

Members of Saddle Lake Reserve have ancestral ties with the Plains Cree Indian Nation.

In the early 1900's, the Saddle Lake Band, Whitefish Lake Band, Blue Quills and Wahsatenaw Band were amalgamated. The Reserve areas were formed under Treaty #6. In 1986, Saddle Lake celebrates its centenary.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 3,960 Band members, although the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Saddle Lake Band is fairly diverse. Approximately 30% of the land is capable of sustaining agricultural crops such as oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

The Band Administration, along with various retail services, provides approximately 30% of the total employment on the Reserve.

The Band also receives about one-third of its income from natural gas royalties.

Construction is another source of employment. There is a batching plant on the Reserve which is involved in cement work.

A 1978 Saddle Lake Master Plan indicated economic self-sufficiency could be accomplished through the development of an on-Reserve economy.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Reserve is accessible from secondary Highway #652. It has 210 kms. of all-weather gravel roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot, operated by the Canadian National Railway, is located in St. Paul.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located at St. Paul.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in St. Paul.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: All modern utilities are available to the residents of the Reserve.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a community hall, arena, cultural museum, rodeo and pow-wow grounds, baseball diamonds and a drop-in centre. There is a senior citizens' recreation centre under construction and a beach development and camping area on Saddle Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school on the Reserve, operated by the Band, which offers grades one to 12. Adult education courses are offered by the Alberta Vocational Centre.

Services

HEALTH: There is a medical centre, operated by the Band, which houses a pysiotherapy unit, a pharmacy and an X-Ray room. The nearest hospital facilities are located in St. Paul and Two Hills.

FIRE PROTECTION: Saddle Lake Reserve has a fire hall with one truck, a Fire Chief and a volunteer fire brigade on the Reserve.

POLICE: The Reserve has its own Tribal Police Force.

Commercial Activity

The Reserve has a multi-plex consisting of a restaurant, laundromat, garage, gas station and museum. There are also two convenience stores and a craft shop.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Television and radio broadcast reception is from Edmonton, St. Paul and Camrose. The Edmonton dailies, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and the St. Paul Journal offer newspaper services. There is also a community newsletter.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and eight Councillors.

The Saddle Lake Band is a member of the Coalition of First Nations.

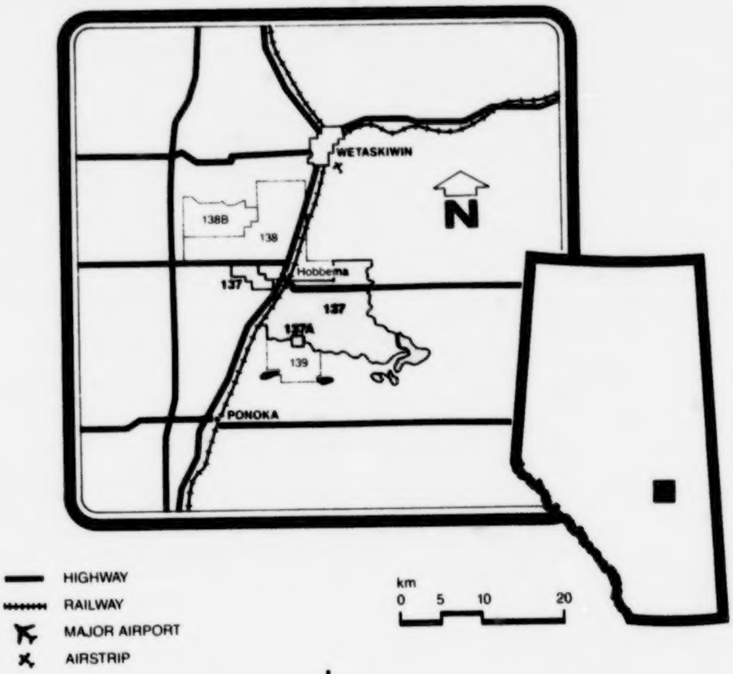
Address: SADDLE LAKE TRIBAL
ADMINISTRATION
Box 100
Saddle Lake, Alberta
T0A 3T0

FEDERAL: There is a Post Office on the Reserve.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Samson



Location

The Samson Reserves are located on the west shore of Samson Lake and Battle River approximately 17 kms. south of Wetaskiwin. The Reserves encompass 13,686 hectares (33,819 acres) and are located in County #10.

History

Members of the Samson Indian Band have ancestral ties with the Cree Indians. The Samson Reserves were established in 1877 when adhesion to Treaty #6 was signed at Blackfoot Crossing. In 1879, the Samson Band became a member of the Four Bands of Hobbema.

The Band chose its name after their first leader, Chief Samson (Kahnaktakasew).

Population

A 1984 census indicated 2,955 Band members, though the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The Band receives an annual royalty payment from producing oil wells based on it's population ratio from the Four Bands Council. It re-invests these funds in projects such as agriculture, businesses and light industries.

The Band Administration Office offers employment opportunities to some Band members.

Agricultural activity in the form of wheat, oats, barley, canola, perennial forage crops and vegetables has potential. Waterfowl and cattle-raising potential is high.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is primary Highway #2A and secondary Highway #611. The internal Reserve roads are mainly gravel and dirt.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depot is operated by the Canadian Pacific Railway in Wetaskiwin.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Wetaskiwin. There is a major airport located in Edmonton, about 45 kms. north of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service from a depot in Hobbema.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied by Trans-Alta Utilities. Water is piped to the Reserve from the Battle River. Sewage disposal is through a sewage lagoon. Natural gas is used for home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include an arena, gymnasium, community hall and a recreation complex.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students attending kindergarten to grade nine are bussed to the Ermineskin Reserve. Students in grades 10 to 12 are bussed to schools in Wetaskiwin or Ponoka.

Services

HEALTH: The four Reserves are served by a health clinic located on the Ermineskin Reserve. It staffs three public health nurses and four community health workers. There is also an ambulance owned by the Samson Band which serves the four Reserves.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a fire hall, two fire trucks and a volunteer fire department.

POLICE: The Four Bands have their own Tribal Police Force who serve the four Reserves along with the R.C.M.P. Detachment from Wetaskiwin.

Commercial Activity

The major commercial centre of Hobbema is located on the northwest corner of the Reserve.

Some of the Band-owned businesses include Samson Manufacturing, a campground at Pidgeon Lake, handicraft outlets, a restaurant, Peace Hills Trust and a bus co-op.

Residents travel to Hobbema, Wetaskiwin or Ponoka for commercial services.

Communications

Telephone service is supplied by Alberta Government Telephones. The Reserve has TV reception from Edmonton. Radio reception from Edmonton, St. Paul and Camrose. Newspaper services are provided by Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Bear Hills Native Voice, Kainai News and the Edmonton dailies.

Government

LOCAL: The Samson Band is governed by a Chief and 12 Councillors.

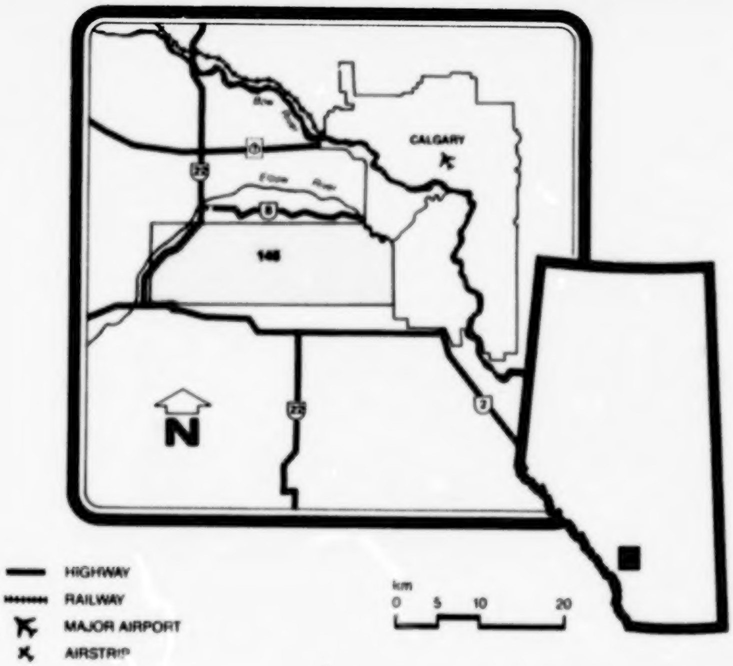
The Band is a member of the Hobbema Four Bands Administration.

Address: SAMSON BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 159
Hobbema, Alberta
T0C 1N0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Sarcee



Location

The Sarcee Reserve is located west of the City of Calgary and south of the Elbow River in Municipal District #44. The Reserve encompasses 27,276 hectares (67,399 acres).

History

The Sarcee Band traces its ancestry to the Beaver Indians. In the early 1800's, the Band settled near Blackfoot Crossing. They were initially given a Reserve west of the present-day Blackfoot Reserve at Gleichen after the signing of Treaty #7 in 1877. They moved to a site in the Fish Creek Valley near where the present Reserve is located.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 717 Band members, though the on-Reserve population was slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Sarcee Reserve is very diversified. One of the major sources of employment and income is gained from agricultural resources on the Reserve. Natural gas provides royalties for the Band. It also receives revenues from land leases to cattle ranches in the area and to the federal Department of Defence.

Employment on the Reserve can be found in one of the many Band-owned businesses and the Band Administration.

Calgary and surrounding communities also provide employment opportunities for Reserve members.

There is potential for tourism and recreational facilities on the western boundaries of the Reserve as they border on Kananaskis Country, a unique provincial recreational area.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is from Primary Highway #22. The internal roads are gravel and dirt.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depots, operated by the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways, are located in Calgary.

AIRPORT: The nearest airport is located in Calgary.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound, Coachways and Red Arrow Bus Lines offer daily service from bus depots located in Calgary.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electricity is supplied by Calgary Power. The homes have treated running water.

Sewage disposal is through septic tanks. Natural gas is used for home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include a sports-plex, gymnasium, skating rink, baseball park, pow-wow grounds, rodeo grounds, picnic areas, community hall, museum and a golf course.

Education

SCHOOLS: The Sarcee Cultural and Educational School and a daycare centre are located on the Reserve. All other students are bussed to schools in Calgary or Bragg Creek.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a public health station with a visiting public health nurse and a community health worker. Additional medical facilities are available in Calgary.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a fire prevention officer on the Reserve. The City of Calgary offers additional fire protection to Reserve members.

POLICE: The Sarcee Tribal Police, in conjunction with the Calgary R.C.M.P. Detachment, provide protection services.

Commercial Activity

Band-owned businesses include Redwood Meadows Commercial Real Estate, Sarcee Development (Housing), a cow/calf farm, Sarcee Electric Ltd. and the Can-Corp Company (welding). Private companies include Indian Crafts Ltd.(Calgary), Peer-A-Mid Trucking Company Ltd., Sarcee Construction and Sarcee Builders Limited.

Communications

Television and radio broadcast reception is from Calgary. Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Newspapers available on the Reserve include Calgary Herald, Calgary Sun, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Bear Hills Native Voice and Kainai News.

Government

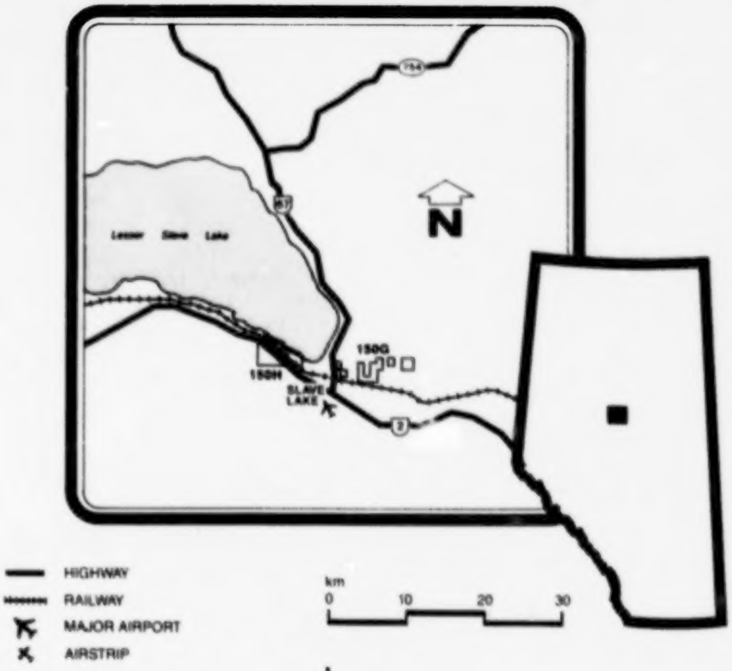
LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

Address: SARCEE BAND ADMINISTRATION
3700 Anderson Road Southwest
Calgary, Alberta
T2W 3C4

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Sawridge



Location

The Sawridge Band resides on two Reserve areas. One is due north of Mitsue, and the second and largest is located on the southeast shore of the Lesser Slave Lake and on the Town of Slave Lake boundary. Both Reserves encompass an area of 2,143 hectares (5,296 acres).

History

The area around the Lesser Slave Lake was the main water and land route for explorers, settlers and traders. The Lesser Slave Lake, one of the largest lakes in northern Alberta was considered to be a hunters and fisherman's paradise.

Members of the Sawridge Band have ancestral ties with the Woodland Cree Indian Nation.

The signing of Treaty #8, in 1899, allocated the land near the lake to the Sawridge Indian Band. The Reserve lands were received in 1912.

Major oil exploration and development in recent years drew more people to this area. The Town of Slave Lake is considered to be the hub of the oil and gas industry and crews and workmen often stay there on their way to the oilfields.

Population

A 1984 census indicated a population of 42 Band members.

Economic Base

The economy of the Sawridge Band is based on oil and gas revenues and investments in the hospitality industry.

The Sawridge Band Enterprises operates two Sawridge Motor Hotels. One is located in the Town of Jasper and the other is situated in the Town of Slave Lake. A recently constructed truck-stop on the outskirts of the Reserve is also owned by the Band.

The Band is also planning to construct a shopping mall in the Town of Slave Lake.

About 1,619 hectares (4,000 acres) of Reserve land has the potential for agricultural development. These lands have the capability of supporting tame pastures and wildlife habitats.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Both Reserves are situated within three kms. of the Town of Slave Lake. Reserve 150H is accessible by Highway #2, and Reserve 150G is accessible by Highway #967 leading from the Town of Slave Lake. The internal roads are paved or gravelled.

RAILWAY: Daily rail and bus services are available in the Town of Slave Lake from depots operated by the Canadian National Railway and the Greyhound Bus Lines.

AIRPORT: Air services are available from the Slave Lake Airport which has a terminal and is paved and lighted.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Electrical services are provided by Alberta Power. Water is obtained from a full hook-up to the Town of Slave Lake water supply. Sewage is disposed of through the Town facilities. Home heating is natural gas or propane.

RECREATION: Full recreational facilities are available in the Town, including tennis courts, an ice arena, a golf course and ski-trails. Rodeo grounds are located on the Reserve.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten to grade 12 is offered in the Town of Slave Lake. There is also a Community Vocational Centre for upgrading and technical courses. University courses are offered through the Sunrise Project which operates from the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council building.

Services

HEALTH: A 34-bed hospital, four doctors and two dentists are located in the Town of Slave Lake. A public health clinic is situated on the Reserve.

FIRE PROTECTION: A 24-man volunteer fire brigade, a fire-hall and fire truck offer fire-protection services. POLICE: The Slave Lake R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Numerous banks, gas stations, retail outlets and restaurants are available in the Town of Slave Lake. Foster home programs and daycare centres are owned and administered by the Band.

Communications

Telephone services are offered by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio reception is provided by Westlock, Edmonton, Peace River and Camrose stations. The Band owns a satellite-receiving dish. Slave Lake Cable-Vision offers eight additional channels. The Slave Lake Leader/Scope, Kainai News, Alberta Native News, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Edmonton dailies provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserves are governed by one Chief and two Councillors.

The Sawridge Band is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: The SAWRIDGE INDIAN BAND
ADMINISTRATION
Box 326
Slave Lake, Alberta
T0G 3N0

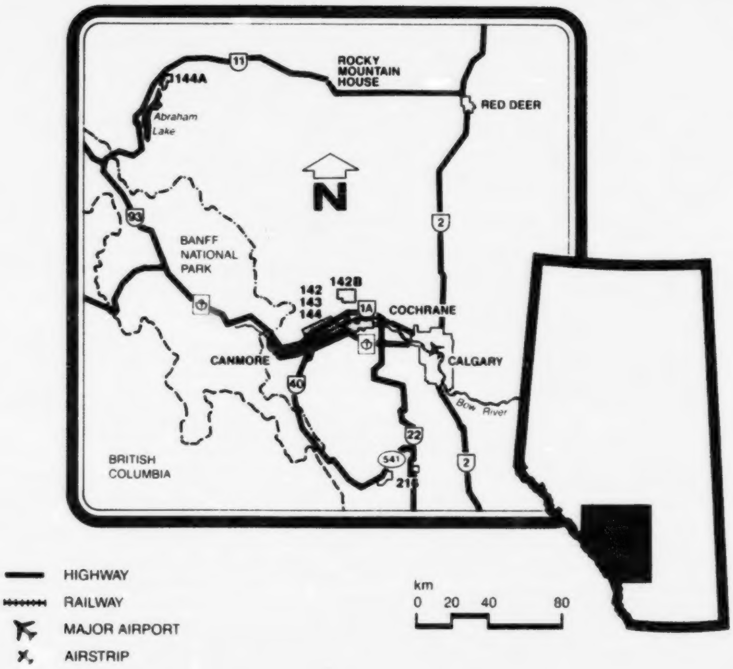
Provincial government services available to the Band are; Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), Advanced Education and Manpower, Attorney General (Provincial Court), Alberta Housing, Energy and Natural Resources, Social Services and Community Health.

FEDERAL: Employment and Immigration, Environment, Transportation and the Canada Post.

These services are located in the Town of Slave Lake.

Comments

Stoney



Location

The Stoney Indian Reserves are comprised of the Chiniki, Bearspaw and Wesley Bands. These Bands inhabit six Reserves in the southwest region of Alberta.

The Big Horn Reserve #144A is situated at the north end of Abraham Lake and covers 2,127 hectares (5,257 acres).

The Morley Reserves #142, #143 and #144 are situated about 56 kms. west of the City of Calgary. They cover a total of 39,134 hectares (96,699 acres). The three Bands occupy this Reserve.

Reserve #142B is located north of the Morley Reserve and covers 5,678 hectares (14,026 acres).

The Eden Valley Reserve #216 is located about 64 kms. south of Calgary and covers 1,690 hectares (4,178 acres).

The Stoney Reserves are located in Improvement District #8.

History

The Stoney Indian Nation have ancestral ties with the Sioux Nation. They separated from the Sioux sometime before 1640 and moved northwards to Lake Superior and westwards to the Rocky Mountains. During this time, they became strong allies of the Cree Indian Nation.

The Stoney Nation then divided into a number of smaller groups. Those led by Chiefs Paul and Alexis intermarried with Cree and Metis and settled near the City of Edmonton.

Other members of the Stoney Indian Nation settled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains.

The Chiniki, Wesley and Bearspaw Bands signed Treaty #7 in 1877.

Population

A 1984 source indicated the population of the Stoney Band to be 2,382 people. Population breakdown for the three main Bands are: Chiniki 802, Bearspaw 807, and Wesley 773 members.

Economic Base

The most valuable natural resource on the Morley Reserve is deposits of natural gas. Royalties from these deposits have been used to enhance and promote the on-Reserve economy.

Agriculture and cattle operations are a source of income for the Band.

Oats and cereal crops are grown for use in the cattle operations.

Gravel deposits and the Portland Cement Quarry provide employment for some members of the Band. Cement from the quarry is used for foundations in housing projects in the area. The close proximity of these deposits to Calgary provides a stable market.

There are stands of marketable timber on the Reserve and the Band owns a sawmill and post-peeling plant.

The potential for tourism development in this area is great. The Wesley Band operates the Nakoda Lodge for tourists.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Trans-Canada Highway runs east/west through the Morley Reserve. All internal roads are gravelled and are maintained by the Bands.

AIRPORT: A paved and lighted airstrip is located at Spring Bank, west of Calgary, and offers air services to the Band.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot at Cochrane, which is about three kms. east of the Morley Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service to residents from depots located in Cochrane and Canmore.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from individual wells. Sewage disposal is via septic tanks. Trans-Alta Utilities provides electrical service and the Canadian Western National Gas Company provides natural gas for home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Reserve include an arena, two indoor hockey rinks, a rodeo arena and a community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: A school, operated by the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, offers kindergarten to grade nine on the Reserve. Students from the Morley Reserves attend secondary school in Cochrane.

Services

HEALTH: There is a clinic located on the Reserve, operated by the Department of National Health and Welfare, which employs a resident public health nurse. The nearest hospitals are located at Cochrane and Canmore.

FIRE PROTECTION: A five-member fire brigade and two fire trucks provide fire protection for the Band.

POLICE: Protection services are provided by a Band Constable and the Canmore R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is a gas station, grocery store, recreation park and an arts and crafts outlet located on the Reserve. The Nakoda Lodge offers resort and conference facilities.

Communications

Radio and television broadcast reception is from Calgary and area. Alberta Government Telephones provide party-line telephone service. Newspaper services are from Calgary.

Government

LOCAL: The Stoney Indian Band is governed by:

Address: BEARSPAW INDIAN BAND
General Delivery,
Morley, Alberta
T0L 1N0

CHINIKI INDIAN BAND
Box 40
Morley, Alberta
T0L 1N0

WESLEY INDIAN BAND
General Delivery,
Morley, Alberta
T0L 1N0

The Stoney Indian Band is governed by one Chief and four Councillors from each Band. This Council is known as the Three Bands Administration and has an Administration Office on the Morley Reserve.

Federal and provincial government services are available in Cochrane.

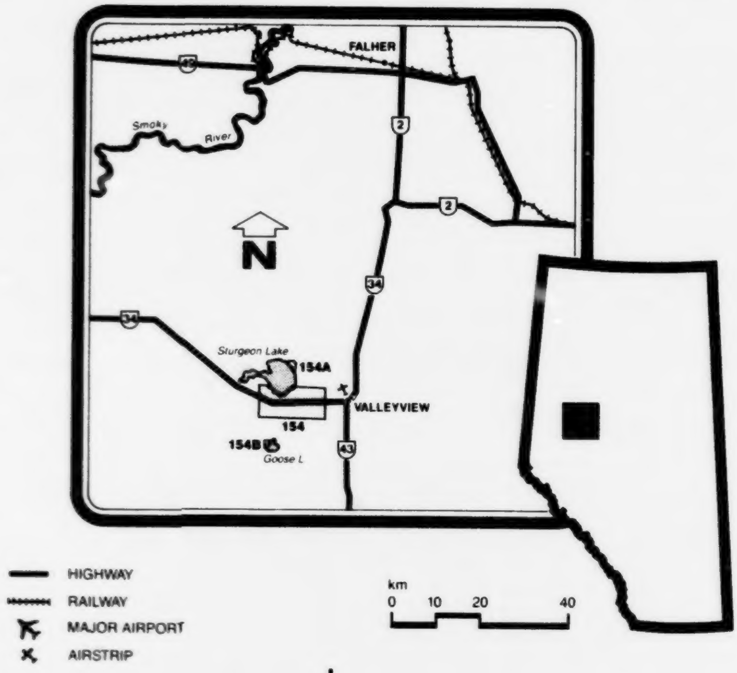
Other Organizations

Stoney Elders Tribal Committee, Nakoda Institute, and the Stony Wilderness Centre.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Sturgeon Lake



Location

Sturgeon Lake Reserve #154 is located about 6 kms. west of Valleyview in Improvement District #16. Two smaller Reserve areas are situated on the eastern shore of Sturgeon Lake and Goose Lake. The Reserve covers an area of 9,057 hectares (22,380 acres).

History

The Sturgeon Lake Indian Band has ancestral ties with the Woodland Cree Indian Nation.

After the signing of Treaty #8 in 1899, the Department of Indian Affairs surveyed the Reserve lands and allocated it to the Sturgeon Lake Band. A Band membership vote decided which of the areas to reside in. The Goose Lake portion was set aside for haylands and agricultural development.

Population

A 1984 census indicated the population to be 867 people.

Economic Base

The economy of the Reserve is based on agriculture, forestry, recreational development, oil exploration and tourism.

The Reserve has agricultural potential and about 50% of the lands are capable of sustaining oats, barley, canola, forage crops and medium to short season vegetables.

Most employment opportunities are seasonal part-time work in the forestry industry. A Band-owned clearing company does slashing and road building. It owns a loader, back-hoe and trucks.

A picnic/campsite area on the shore of Sturgeon Lake has been developed. It includes 110 sites with modern hook-ups. The Youngs Point Provincial Park is located on the northwestern point of Sturgeon Lake. Tourism potential in this area is promising.

The Band receives some revenue from oil well royalties. Although this type of development has decreased in the recent past, there is every indication it will continue in the future.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Highway #34 running west of Valleyview leads to the Reserve. All internal Reserve roads are gravelled.

RAILWAYS: The nearest railway depot is located at Falher, about 76 kms. north of the Reserve. It is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: A paved and lighted airstrip is located in Valleyview about 6 kms. east of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service to the Reserve.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from individual wells. Sewage is disposed of through septic tanks. The Band is planning to up-grade these services. Alberta Power provides electricity to all residents. The main home heating source is natural gas.

RECREATION: An indoor arena has recently been completed. There are two baseball diamonds and a small gymnasium. The campground provides opportunities for boating, camping and swimming.

Education

SCHOOLS: Kindergarten classes are offered on the Reserve. All students attend schools in Valleyview.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing station is located on the Reserve and is operated by the Department of National Health and Welfare. A doctor visits weekly. Additional medical services are available in Valleyview, which has a 35-bed hospital and four doctors.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Band employs a fire prevention officer to educate the residents on the hazards and prevention of fire. There is a pumper unit manned by a volunteer fire brigade. Additional emergency services are offered by the Town of Valleyview.

POLICE: The Reserve has a Band Constable Program. The R.C.M.P. Detachment from Valleyview provides additional protection services.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to Valleyview for these services.

Communications

The area is served by CBC radio and television, CTV television and radio stations from Grande Prairie, Edmonton, Camrose and Peace River. Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. The Valley Views provides newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and seven Councillors.

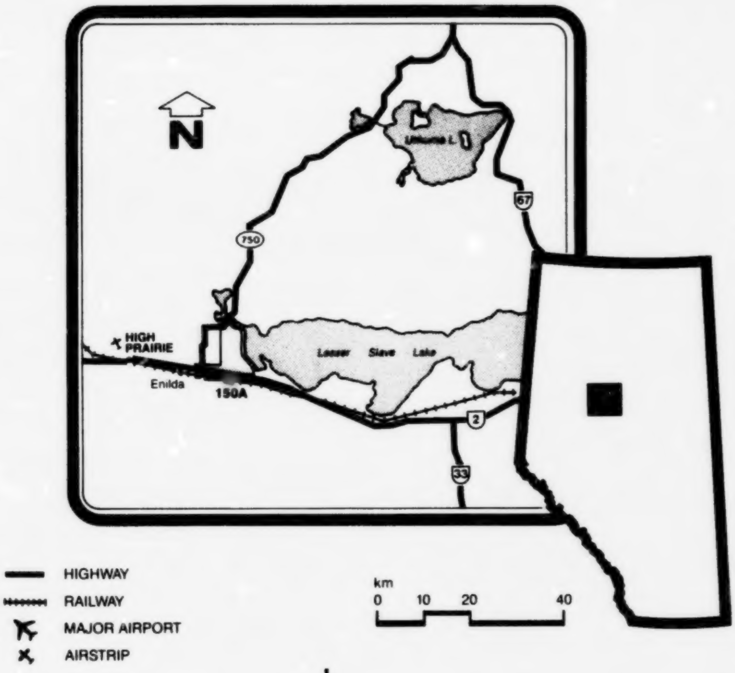
The Sturgeon Lake Indian Reserve is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: STURGEON LAKE INDIAN RESERVE
Box 757
Valleyview, Alberta
T0H 3N0

Provincial and federal government services are available in Valleyview.

Comments

Sucker Creek



Location

Located along the eastern shore of the Lesser Slave Lake, the Sucker Creek Reserve covers an area of 5,987 hectares (14,794 acres). It is located in Improvement District #17 about 16 kms. east of the Town of High Prairie.

History

When Treaty #8 was signed in 1899, the federal government recognized Chief Kinosayo as the leader of the five Cree Bands who resided in the Lesser Slave Lake area. Thirty years after the signing of the Treaty, each Band became a separate and distinct entity, with its own Chief and Council.

In 1912, the Sucker Creek Reserve was re-surveyed and additional land was granted due to an increase in the Band population.

Population

A 1981 census indicated Reserve membership to be 653 people. Actual on-Reserve figures are slightly less.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Reserve is directly influenced by the region's economy.

Forestry is the main employer of Band members. The Enilda Sawmill, about six kms. west of the Reserve, provides some employment.

Individually-owned trucking and heavy equipment companies are being established by some Band members. Over 80% of the Reserve land is capable of sustaining crops such as oats, barley, canola, forage crops and short and medium season vegetables. Some of the area along the lake has a high potential for waterfowl production. The Band is considering the development of a wild rice farm and planning to develop buffalo herds for future commercial marketing purposes.

Seasonal employment in trapping, fishing and hunting is done by some Band members. Four licensed guides operate from Sucker Creek Reserve. Hunting and fishing activities serve mainly for domestic purposes.

The Band Administration Office employs about four staff-members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is via primary Highway #2. About 30 kms. of internal road are gravelled or paved.

RAILWAY: The nearest Canadian National Railway depots are in Enilda and High Prairie.

AIRPORT: A paved airstrip for light aircraft is located 16 kms. east of the Reserve in High Prairie. The nearest major commercial airport is in Peace River, 130 kms. northwest of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines operates a depot in High Prairie. Flag-stop service is available to residents of the Reserve.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is trucked in from High Prairie and stored in cisterns. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks. All homes have electrical service from Alberta Power. Home heating sources are oil, wood and propane.

RECREATION: The Reserve has rodeo grounds, a baseball diamond, community hall and an outdoor skating rink. A recreation complex is slated for completion in August, 1985. There is also a Youth Centre on the reserve which provides educational, recreational and counselling services.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in High Prairie which are operated by the High Prairie School Division.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a public health unit and a nurse from the Driftpile Nursing Station visits regularly. There is a resident community health worker. The nearest hospital is in High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: A fire prevention officer, employed by the Band, helps reduce the risk of fire by educating the Band members about potential fire hazards. The High Prairie fire brigade offers services to the Reserve.

POLICE: The High Prairie R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

There is a Band-operated confectionary store on the Reserve. Additional retail services are available in the Town of High Prairie.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides party-line telephone service. Radio and television broadcast reception is from CBX-Radio and CBXT-TV. The Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Independant Scope and South Peace News provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Band is governed by a Chief and six Councillors.

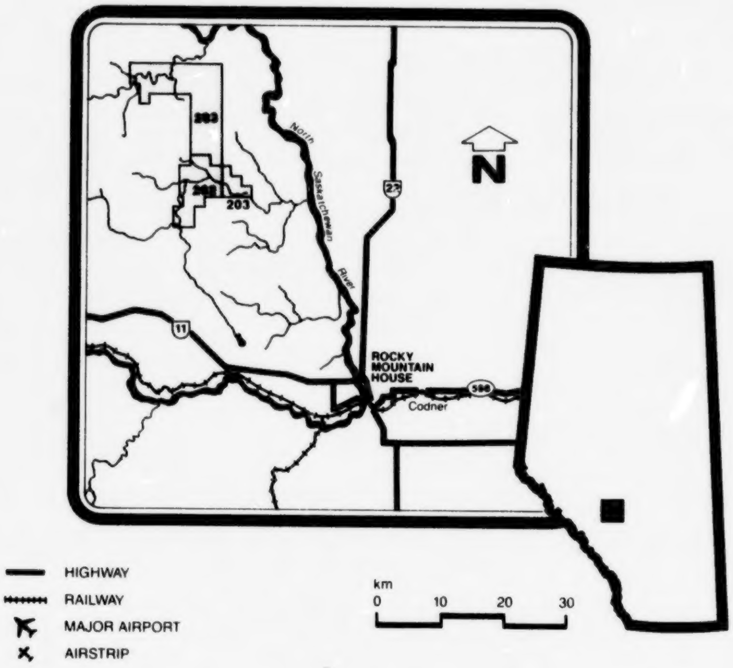
The Sucker Creek Reserve is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: SUCKER CREEK INDIAN BAND
Box 65
Enilda, Alberta
T0G 0W0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Sunchild/O'Chiese



Location

The Sunchild/O'Chiese Reserves #202 and #203 are two individual Bands and Reserves which are in close proximity.

The Sunchild Band inhabits a 5,218 hectare (12,894 acre) Reserve near the Baptiste River about 69 kms. northwest of Rocky Mountain House.

The O'Chiese Reserve is situated approximately 56 kms. northwest of Rocky Mountain House and covers an area of 13,793 hectares (34,070 acres). The Reserves are located in Improvement District #10.

History

Adhesion to Treaty #6 was signed in 1944. The Reserve boundaries were established in September 1949 and November 1949 respectively.

An exchange of lands was completed in 1959 between the Province of Alberta, federal government and the O'Chiese Band. Although the exchange affected the boundaries of the Reserve, the total acreage changed little.

The people share the same Plains Cree cultural heritage as most of the Bands in Treaty #6.

Population

A 1984 census indicated the population of the Sunchild Reserve to be 467 people and the O'Chiese Reserve to be 368 people.

Economic Base

The Sunchild/O'Chiese Reserves are surrounded by existing and potential economic resources that can be developed. Both are situated in the O'Chiese block of the Brazeau Timber Development area, which is an excellent location for potential service facilities associated with timber development. There is a substantial amount of logging, skidding and heavy equipment operation as well.

There are also significant deposits of natural gas and petroleum on these two Reserves. The major source of employment is in oil and gas exploration and drilling.

O'Chiese Band Bussing and O'Chiese Forest Enterprises serve as a means of commercial income. A few privately-owned farming businesses are located on the Reserve.

Both Reserves are capable of supporting beef cattle and ranching activities.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Access to the Reserves is by an all-weather gravel road from Rocky Mountain House. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in Codner and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airport is located in Red Deer.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest depot, operated by Coachways Bus Lines, is located in Rocky Mountain House.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Woodstoves and central furnaces are the main sources of home heating. Electricity is available to both Reserves from Alberta Power. Water is obtained from wells and there are a few homes with indoor plumbing.

RECREATION: A cultural centre, baseball diamonds, a skating rink, a community hall, a gymnasium and pow-wow grounds serve as recreational facilities.

Education

SCHOOLS: Grades one to nine attend the Stelfox Federal School which is located on the Sunchild Reserve and is shared with the O'Chiese Band. Secondary students attend school in Rocky Mountain House.

Services

HEALTH: A nursing centre and a public health nurse offer medical care to the Reserve members.

FIRE PROTECTION: A fire truck shared with the O'Chiese Band provides fire protection in the area.

POLICE: A Band Constable and the Rocky Mountain House R.C.M.P. Detachment provide protection services.

Commercial Activity

A grocery store and a gas station are present in the community.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Various television stations and radio CHMH, CKRD and CKGY are received in this area. The Albertan, The Mountaineer, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta, Kainai News, Alberta Native News and Bear Hills Native Voice provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Sunchild and O'Chiese Reserves share a Band Office. Each Reserve is governed by a Chief and five Councillors.

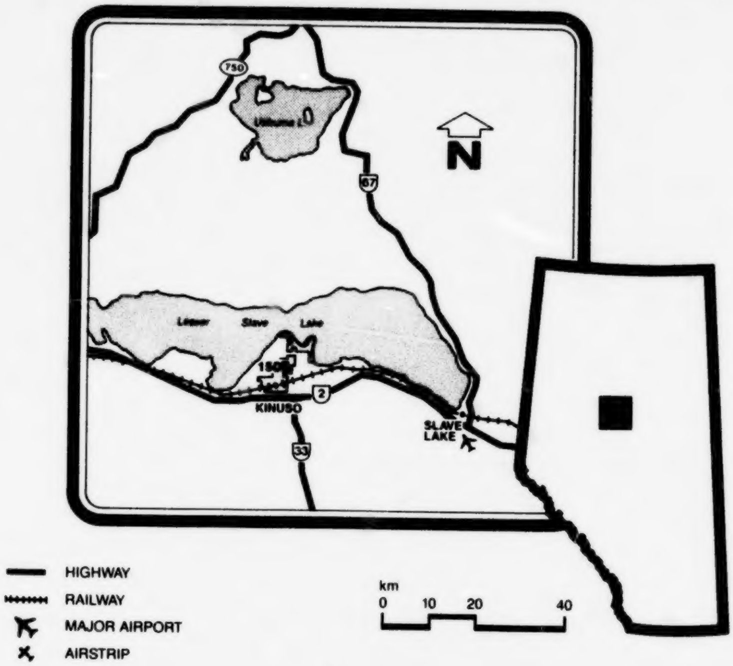
Address: SUNCHILD BAND
Box 844
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta
T0M 1T0

O'CHIESE BAND
General Delivery,
Rocky Mountain House, Alberta
T0M 1T0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Swan River



Location

The Swan River Reserve is composed of two Reserve areas 150E and 150F. Reserve 150E is located 50 kms. west of the Town of Slave Lake. Reserve 150F is situated about 15 kms. east of Reserve 150E. Both are situated in Improvement District #17. The total area of the Reserves is 4,318 hectares (10,672 acres).

History

When Treaty #8 was signed in 1899, the five Slave Lake Cree bands jointly shared the lands around the Lesser Slave Lake. However, as agriculture became more prominant, the people migrated to the more fertile lands around the Driftpile and the Swan River Reserves.

Two small groups lived at Swan River, one group at Wahpah (the Narrows) and the other at Assineau River which is uninhabited today.

In 1912, the Swan River Reserve #150E and the Assineau Reserve #150F were surveyed.

Population

A 1981 source indicated 263 people. This includes both on and off-Reserve members.

Economic Base

Band members derive their income from two major sources: agriculture and forestry.

Over 80% of the land has potential for agricultural development. Vegetables and annual crops such as oats, barley and canola can be grown. There are also areas on the Reserve which have a high potential for waterfowl production.

The forestry industry in the Slave Lake and Swan Hills areas are major employment sources. Firefighting offers seasonal employment.

Seasonal hunting and fishing is done by some Band members and is used mainly for domestic purposes.

Some revenue is derived from gas and oil royalties.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 runs east/west along the base of the Reserves. All internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAYS: The nearest depot is located in Kinuso and is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in the Town of Slave Lake, about 50 kms. east of the Reserve.

BUS SERVICE: Daily service is provided by the Greyhound Bus Lines depot in Kinuso.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: A water treatment plant which serves both Reserves and the village of Kinuso is located on the Reserve. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks. Alberta Power supplies electricity to all homes. The main sources of home heating are wood and oil.

RECREATION: A multi-purpose complex, which houses the Band Offices and a recreation centre, was constructed in 1983. The centre is used for social functions such as bingos, workshops and meetings. Other facilities include a park on the south shore of the lake, two baseball diamonds, an indoor curling rink and an outdoor skating rink.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to school in Kinuso. The Reserve also has daycare and kindergarten facilities.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a visiting public health nurse and a mobile dental service.

Additional medical facilities are located in the Towns of Slave Lake and High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: The Reserve has a resident fire-protection officer. A volunteer fire brigade is shared with Kinuso.

POLICE: The Faust R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to the Town of Slave Lake for retail services. The nearest banking facility is located in Kinuso.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones offers telephone service to the residents. Radio broadcasts from Peace River, Camrose and Edmonton are received, as is CBC-TV. The Slave Lake Leader/Scope and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta offer newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

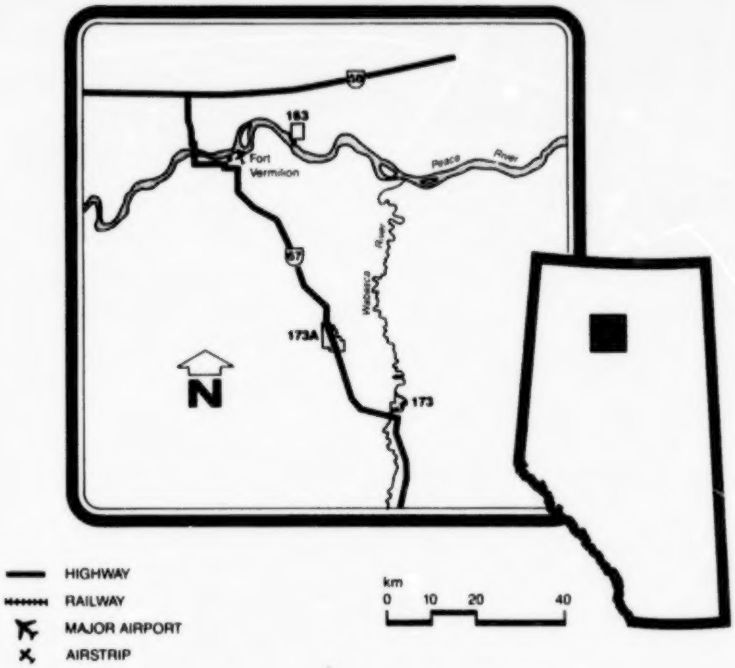
The Swan River Band is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: SWAN RIVER BAND ADMINISTRATION
Box 270
Kinuso, Alberta
T0G 1K0

Federal and Provincial Government programs and services are available in the Town of Slave Lake.

Comments

Tallcree



Location

The Tallcree Reserves consist of three areas which are located in Improvement District #23.

The North Tallcree Reserve #173A is situated 50 kms. south of Fort Vermilion and encompasses 2,238 hectares (5,531 acres). The South Tallcree Reserve #173 is located 80 kms. south of Fort Vermilion on the west side of the Wabasca River. It covers 645 hectares (1,595 acres).

Beaver Ranch Indian Reserve #163 is located 18 kms. east of Fort Vermilion on the Peace River and covers an area of 841 hectares (2,080 acres).

History

Members of the Tallcree Band have ancestral ties with the Woodland Cree Indian Nation.

By the 1890's, most Woodland Cree were well-mixed with the Metis. The Klondike Gold Rush in 1898 greatly changed the routine of the hunter and fur-trader. The influx of gold-seekers and other hunters and trappers caused uneasiness among the Cree leaders because they felt their traditional hunting lands would be taken away.

Treaty #8 was negotiated with the federal government in 1899.

Population

A 1982 source indicated 335 people. Approximately 30% of the population live on the North Tallcree Reserve and 30% live on the South Tallcree Reserve. About 5% live in Beaver Ranch with the remaining 35% re-locating to other areas.

Economic Base

The Beaver Ranch Reserve has established a relatively large cattle operation. Both the north and south Reserves have agricultural potential.

Construction of a new school, health centre and a four-bay garage/service centre on the North Reserve provides temporary employment.

A local trucking company is working on a road between Wabasca and High Level. It is also issuing bids on clearing contracts for the Norman Wells Pipeline.

The Reserves have marketable stands of timber. A lumber mill offers some employment. Seasonal employment in reforestation and fire-fighting projects offer part-time employment.

The Band receives some royalties from gas and oil developments. Commercial activities and services in Fort Vermilion and High Level also provide some employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #67, off Highway #58, leads to the Reserve areas. The North Reserve has about six kms. of all-weather road. The South Reserve has about four kms. and the Beaver Ranch area has approximately 18 kms. of all-weather gravel road.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot, operated by Canadian National Railway, is located in High Level, 80 kms. east of the Reserves.

AIRPORT: A paved and lighted airport is located in Fort Vermilion. Peace Air offers local service.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in Fort Vermilion.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Residents of the North Reserve obtain water from a water truck. The South Reserve hauls water from the river and stores it in barrels. Beaver Ranch obtains water from the Peace River. The main sources of home heating are propane and wood. Electricity is available to the North Reserve. Plans are underway for installing power lines to the South Reserve and Beaver Ranch.

RECREATION: The North Reserve has an outdoor skating rink and playground facilities at the school. Additional facilities are in the planning stages.

Education

SCHOOLS: The North and South Reserves have schools offering grades one to eight and one to nine respectively. They are under the administration of the Fort Vermilion School Division. Beaver Ranch students attend these schools. Pre-secondary and secondary students attend schools in High Level and Fort Vermilion.

Services

HEALTH: A recently constructed health care centre on the North Reserve serves all Reserves. A health nurse from the Fort Vermilion/High Level Health Unit visits weekly. Additional medical services are available in Fort Vermilion.

FIRE PROTECTION: Fire protection services are in the planning stages.

POLICE: The Fort Vermilion R.C.M.P. Detachment provides protection services.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to Fort Vermilion and High Level for retail services.

Communications

Telephone communication is provided by radio-telephone. Radio CKYL-Peace River and CBC broadcasts are received in this area. The Northern Pioneer, the High Level Echo, and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: All three Reserves are governed by a Chief and two Councillors.

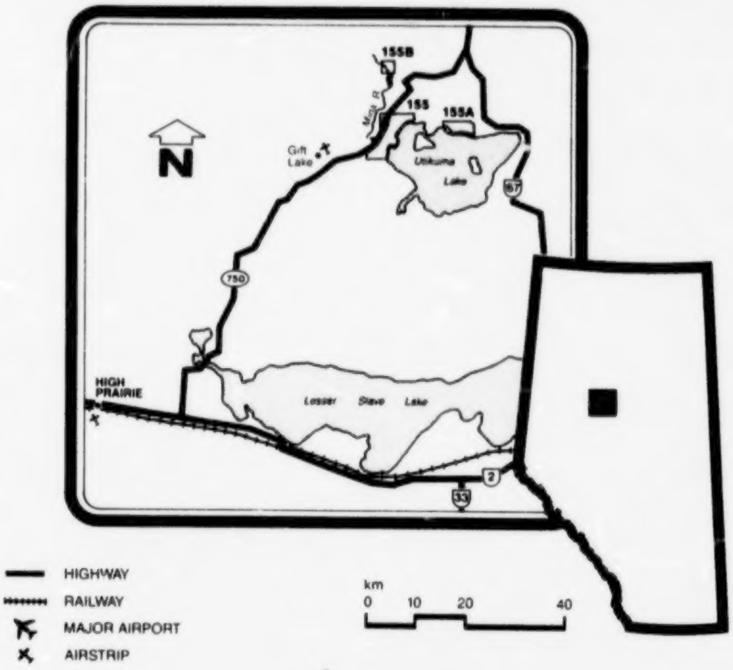
Address: TALL CREE BAND
Box 367
Fort Vermilion, Alberta
T0H 1N0

Provincial and federal government services are available in Fort Vermilion.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Whitefish Lake



Location

The Whitefish Lake Reserve consists of three areas located approximately 110 kms. northeast of High Prairie.

The largest Reserve, #155, is about 10 kms. past the community of Gift Lake. Reserve #155A is located on the northern extremity of the same lake. Reserve #155B is situated on the Mink River about 10 kms. north of the main Reserve.

All Reserves cover a total area of 4,845 hectares (11,974 acres).

History

The ancestors of most Band members were Woods Cree Indians who lived in the area around the late 1700's. Historical Metis followed the fur trade to this area.

In 1909, after Treaty #8 was signed, the three Reserves were surveyed and the land allocated to the Band.

Population

A 1983 source indicated the population of the Band to total 678 people, although the on-Reserve population was less.

Economic Base

The economy of the Band relies on forestry activity, oil and gas exploration, agriculture and commercial fishing.

There is a Band-owned sawmill operating in the area. Seasonal employment, such as fire-fighting, reforestation projects, winter-work Programs and fall and winter lumbering add to the Band's income.

The Band intends to pursue potential oil and gas activity in the area. Mineral deposits on the Reserve continue to be a source of income for some Band members.

About 50% of the land on the Reserves are capable of producing crops such as oats, barley, canola, forage crops and medium to short season vegetables.

Commercial fishing, with quota management, could become a stable and long-term employment source. Trapping and hunting activities are done mainly for domestic purposes.

The Band Administration Office employs some Band members.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Reserve is Highway #750. The Reserve's two major internal roads are gravelled.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in High Prairie, about 110 kms. southwest of the Reserve.

AIRPORT: There is a grass landing strip about 10 kms. southwest in Gift Lake, and a paved airport in High Prairie.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines offers daily service east and west from a depot in High Prairie.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the Utikuma Lake. It is stored in a reservoir, where it is treated and pressurized. Sewage disposal is by septic tanks and fields. Alberta Power provides electricity to all residents. The main home heating sources are wood, oil and propane.

RECREATION: Public recreation facilities consists of a baseball diamond, an outdoor skating rink and children's playgrounds. The school gymnasium is also utilized and rodeo grounds have been constructed. The Band is planning to build a recreational activity complex.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school, under the administration of the Northlands School Division, which offers grades one to nine. An Early Childhood Services program is also offered on the Reserve. Students attending grades 10 to 12 are boarded in High Prairie.

Services

HEALTH: The Reserve has a health clinic and employs two nurses. A doctor visits once a week. Additional medical services are available in High Prairie.

FIRE PROTECTION: A water-truck provides on-Reserve fire protection. High Prairie has additional fire protection services should the need arise.

POLICE: An R.C.M.P. Detachment located in High Prairie offers protection services to the Band. There is a Band Constable Program on the Reserve.

Commercial Activity

The Reserve has a Hudson Bay store, a baked-goods facility, grocery store, gas station and a handicrafts outlet. A laundromat is in the planning stages. The nearest banking facilities are located in High Prairie.

Communications

All residents receive telephone service through Alberta Government Telephones. Radio KXLY-Peace River and numerous Edmonton stations are received, as is CBC-TV. The South Peace News and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Reserve is governed by a Chief and five Councillors.

The Whitefish Lake Band is a member of the Lesser Slave Lake Indian Regional Council.

Address: WHITEFISH LAKE BAND
General Delivery,
Atikameg, Alberta
T0G 0C0

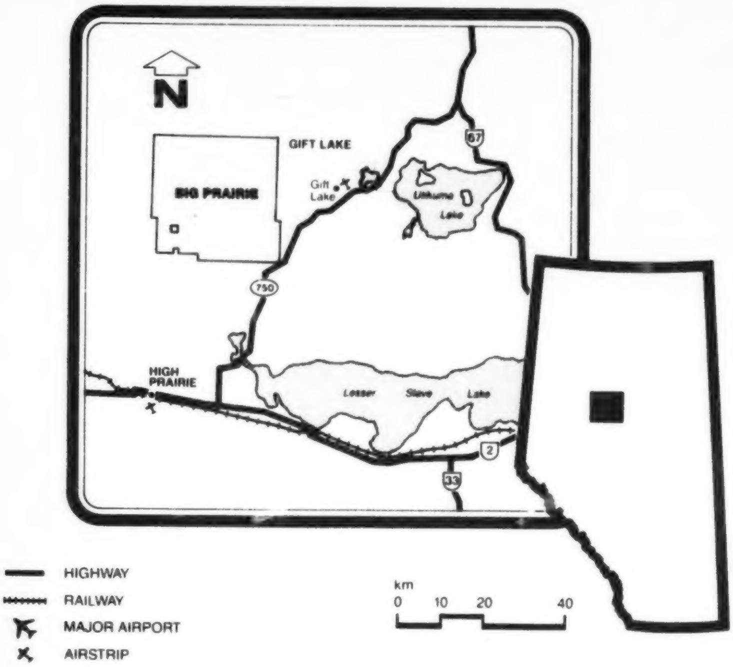
Other Organizations

Local committees are: Health Committee, Atikameg Arts and Crafts.

Comments

METIS SETTLEMENTS

Big Prairie



Location

The Big Prairie Metis Settlement #3 is located 56 kms. north of High Prairie and 25 kms. northwest of the Lesser Slave Lake. The settlement encompasses 82,233 hectares (203,113 acres) and is located in Improvement District #17.

History

The Settlement was established in 1938 following the enactment of the Metis Population Betterment Act.

Traditionally, the lifestyle and culture of the people had been based on hunting, fishing, trapping and logging. As the feasibility of agricultural activities became apparent and developed, these traditional lifestyles declined.

Population

A 1982 source indicated the Settlement membership to be about 294 people.

Economic Base

Over half of the Settlement land is capable of continually producing crops such as oats, barley, canola, and perennial forage crops.

The extensive forest cover has commercial potential.

Seismic work and access road construction provides seasonal employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is secondary road #749 from High Prairie. Internal roads are all-weather gravel.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is located in High Prairie, about 56 kms. south of the Settlement.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is situated in High Prairie. Peace River has a commercial airport with a terminal and scheduled flights.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest depot is located in High Prairie and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water for the community hall and office is obtained from a reservoir located in the community. Plans are underway to construct a water treatment plant. Completion date is scheduled for the fall of 1985. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Most homes are heated with wood, propane or oil.

RECREATION: Facilities include a community hall, baseball diamond and skating rink. The Settlement is developing a recreation and picnic area at Jackpine Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students in kindergarten to grade six attend school on the Settlement. The school is under the administration of the Northlands School Division. Pre-secondary and secondary students attend schools in High Prairie. There is a Community Vocational Centre on the Settlement offering adult education and technical courses.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse from the Peace River Health Unit visits the Settlement once a week. Additional medical services are available in High Prairie.

POLICE: The High Prairie R.C.M.P. Detachment serves Settlement members.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to High Prairie for retail services.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcasts from Peace River, Grand Prairie and Edmonton are received, as is CBC-TV. The High Prairie Independant Scope, Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and Alberta Native News offer newspaper services.

Government

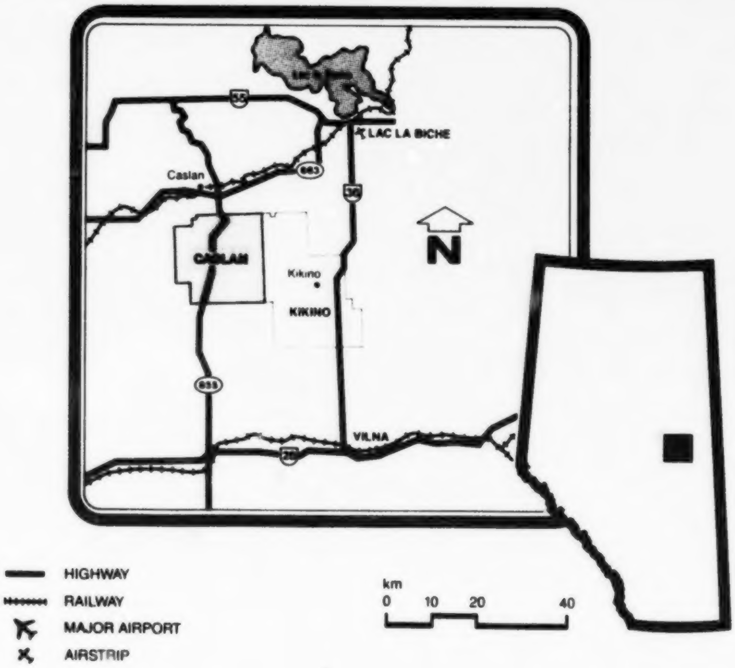
LOCAL: The Settlement is administered by an elected Chairman and four Councillors.

The Big Prairie Metis Settlement is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements Association.

Address: BIG PRAIRIE METIS SETTLEMENT
Box 238
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1C0

Comments

Caslan



Location

The Caslan Metis Settlement is located approximately 50 kms. southwest of the Town of Lac La Biche in Improvement District #18. It covers 34,720 hectares (85,760 acres) and borders the Kikino Settlement to the west.

History

Both the Caslan and Kikino Metis Settlements were established and allocated to the Goodfish Lake Settlement Association in 1939, due to the enactment of the Metis Betterment Act of 1938.

The Caslan Metis Settlement was originally reserved for Metis veterans returning from the war. Its name is derived from the nearby hamlet of Caslan.

Population

A 1984 source indicated 655 people.

Economic Base

Most employment for the Caslan Metis Settlement residents is seasonal or temporary and consists of fire-fighting, government sponsored projects and work in nearby Boyle and Lac La Biche.

Caslan Enterprises is a Settlement-owned company that operates a sewing factory on a contract basis. Large areas of the Settlement could be developed for pasture land or for wildlife production.

Hunting, fishing and trapping provide additional economic activity for the residents.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Secondary Highway #855 is the main access road to the Settlement. Caslan has approximately 45 kms. of all-weather gravel road.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway operates a depot in the hamlet of Caslan.

AIRPORT: The nearest airstrip is located in Lac La Biche.

BUS SERVICE: The closest bus depot is located in Boyle, 30 kms. west of Caslan.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from a community water treatment plant or from individual wells. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Homes are heated by propane, wood or oil.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Settlement include a senior citizen's drop-in centre, rodeo grounds, skating rink and a baseball diamond.

Education

SCHOOLS: Students in grades one to six attend school in the hamlet of Caslan, while students in pre-secondary and secondary grades are bussed to schools in Lac La Biche.

Services

HEALTH: A health nurse from the Athabasca Health Unit visits the Settlement on a regular basis.

FIRE PROTECTION.. The closest facility is located in Boyle.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by the Boyle R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

The Settlement operates a sewing factory on a contractual basis, a Native arts and crafts operation and Caslan Cats Construction. There is a multi-complex in the planning stages which will house a grocery store, laundromat and a gas station. Completion date is scheduled for the summer of 1985.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Radio reception is from St. Paul and Edmonton. Television broadcast reception is CBC, CBC-French and CTV. The Settlement receives the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: The Caslan Metis Settlement is governed by a Chairman and four Councillors.

It is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlement Association.

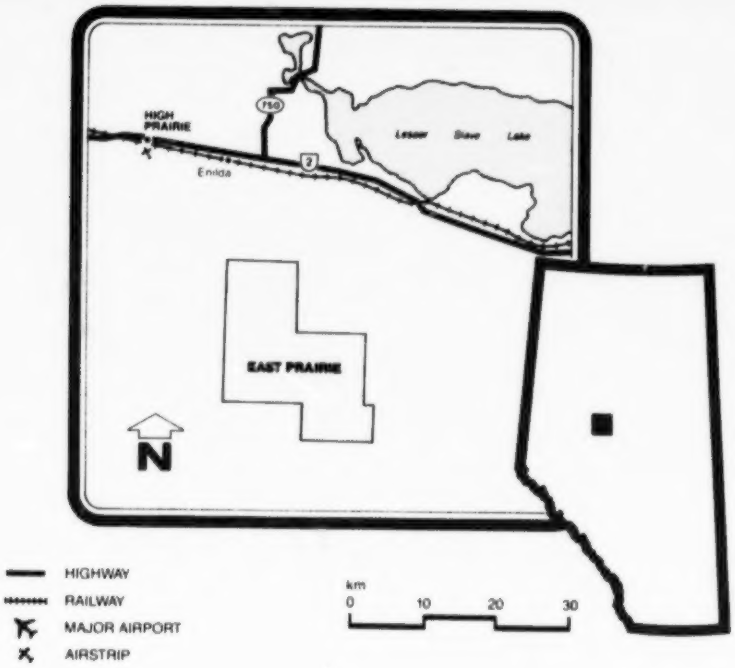
Address: CASLAN METIS SETTLEMENT
General Delivery,
Caslan, Alberta
T0A 0R0

Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #118 is located in Caslan.

Comments

East Prairie



Location

East Prairie Metis Settlement #4 is located approximately 40 kms. southeast of High Prairie in Improvement District #17. The Settlement encompasses nearly 32,647 hectares (80,640 acres).

History

In 1938, recommendations from the Ewing Commission and the Metis Population Betterment Act resulted in land being allocated to the Metis people.

The Settlement is named after the East Prairie River.

Population

A 1984 source indicated 336 people.

Economic Base

Over half of the Settlement land is capable of sustaining continuous agricultural crops such as oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

Although hunting, trapping and fishing were once the mainstay of the people, this activity is used mainly for domestic purposes today.

There has been some oil and gas exploration in this area. Three wells were producing gas in 1981 and seismic exploration has indicated potential oil wells.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access is via secondary road #149 about 24 kms. south of Enilda. Alberta Transportation maintains about 50 kms. of gravelled road in the Settlement. Eight kilometres of new road was constructed in 1981 to enhance access to new farming developments.

RAILWAY: The Canadian National Railway offers rail service from a depot in Enilda. Spendus Transportation Service in High Prairie offers additional freight services.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in High Prairie. The closest commercial airport is located in Peace River.

BUS SERVICE. The nearest bus depot, operated by Greyhound Bus Lines, is located in High Prairie.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Most residents obtain water from individual wells or from a central water storage point located near the Settlement Office. Plans are underway to install new water and sewage facilities. Alberta Power provides electrical services. Wood and oil are the main sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include rodeo grounds, baseball diamonds, a skating rink and a community hall for social events. A recreation/picnic area has been developed along a portion of the creek.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to High Prairie. A Community Vocational Centre located on the Settlement offers adult up-grading and technical courses.

Services

HEALTH: The nearest medical facility is located in High Prairie. A public health nurse visits regularly from the Peace River Health Centre in High Prairie.

POLICE: The High Prairie R.C.M.P. Detachment serves the Settlement.

Commercial Activity

Residents commute to High Prairie for retail services.

Communications

Party-line telephone service is available from Alberta Government Telephones. Radio broadcast reception is from Peace River, Grande Prairie and Edmonton. CBC-TV is transmitted to this area. The South Peace News and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta offers newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The Settlement is administered by an elected Chairman and four Councillors.

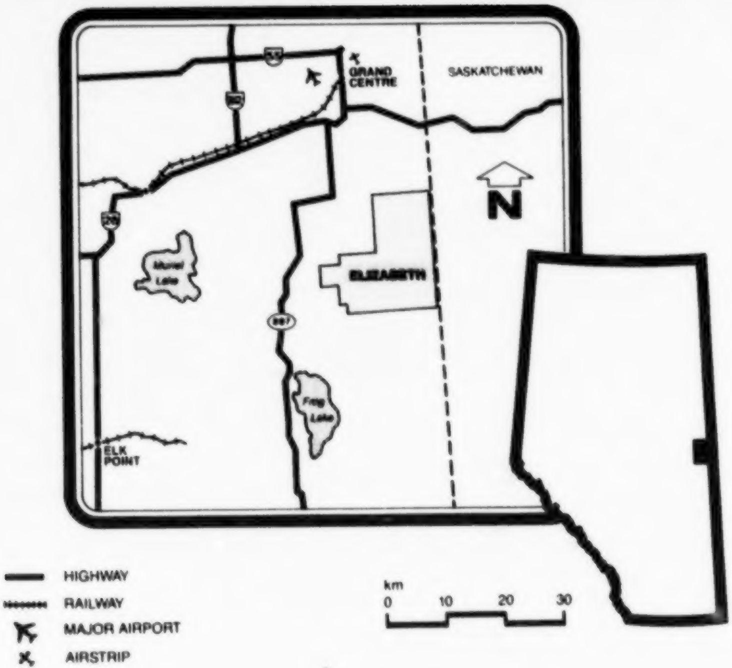
The East Prairie Settlement is a member of the Federation of Metis Settlements.

Address: EAST PRAIRIE METIS SETTLEMENT
Box 1289
High Prairie, Alberta
T0G 1E0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Elizabeth



Location

The Elizabeth Metis Settlement is located approximately 30 kms. south of Grand Centre in Improvement District #18. It covers 25,601 hectares (63,236 acres).

History

The Settlement received its name from Elizabeth Dion, wife of famous Metis leader — Joseph Dion.

The area was settled in 1939 when lands were set aside by the Provincial Government through the Metis Population Betterment Act of 1938.

Population

A 1983 census indicated the Settlement population to be 416 people.

Economic Base

The oil and gas industry offers the most employment potential to the residents of Elizabeth Settlement. AMACO and ESSO are the two major employers.

There are several cow/calf operations on the Settlement. Some members collect a fee from non-Settlement members for pasturing cattle.

There is some potential for agricultural production with crops such as oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access road is secondary Highway #28. The Settlement has approximately 34 kms. of all-weather gravel roads.

RAILWAY: The closest railwav depot is in Grand Centre.

AIRPORTS: The nearest airstrip is the Medley Airforce Base. Grand Centre has a paved airstrip.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is in Grand Centre and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Most residents obtain water from individual wells or by hauling it and storing it in cisterns. Approximately 20 homes have running water and plans are underway to extend this service. Electrical service is provided by Alberta Power. Home heating sources are propane, wood and oil.

RECREATION: Facilities include two baseball diamonds, a children's playground, an outdoor skating rink, rodeo grounds and a community hall. The Soars Lake Resort and a public beach area are located at Soars Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school offering grades one to seven which is administered by the Lakeland Roman Catholic School Division. Students attending pre-secondary and secondary grades are bussed to schools in Cold Lake.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse from Grand Centre visits the Settlement twice a week.

FIRE PROTECTION: The nearest fire protection services are located in Grand Centre.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by the Grand Centre R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There is a furniture factory and a sawmill on the Settlement. Pimmie Development activities include building roads to oil leases, installing water lines into residences, providing water truck services and general oil lease maintainance. The nearest retail and service industries are located in Grand Centre.

Communications

Telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Edmonton television and radio reception is available as well as radio reception from St. Paul and Camrose. The Settlement receives the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: The Settlement is governed by a Chairman and four Councillors.

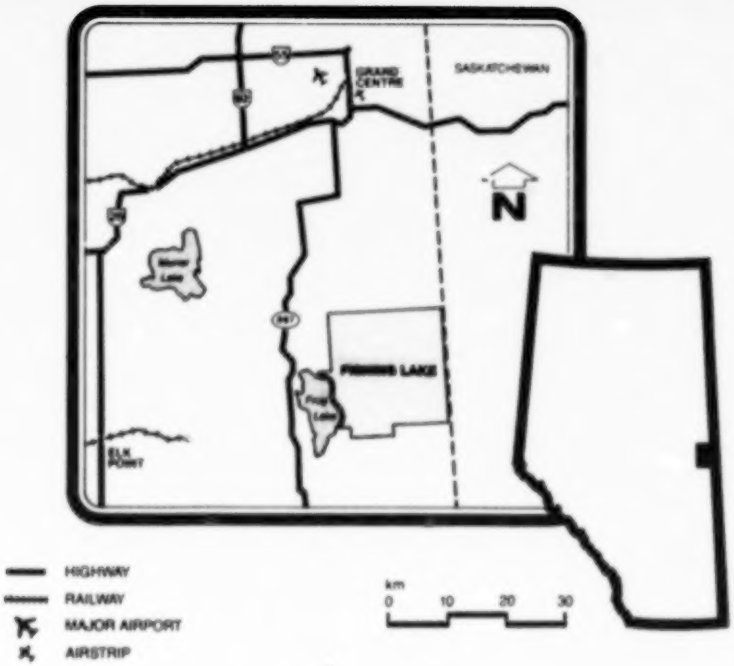
The Elizabeth Metis Settlement is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements Association.

Address: ELIZABETH METIS SETTLEMENT
Box 420
Grand Centre, Alberta
T0A 0L0

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Fishing Lake



Location

The Fishing Lake Metis Settlement is located approximately 93 kms. south of Grande Centre, in Improvement District #18. The Settlement encompasses 37,957 hectares (93,760 acres).

History

Recommendations by the Ewing Commission and the Metis Population Betterment Act of 1938 allocated lands to the Metis people in Alberta. The Settlement was named after nearby Fishing Lake when the Fishing Lake Association was formed in 1939.

Population

A 1984 census indicated approximately 357 people on the Settlement.

Economic Base

Some of the Settlement land is capable of supporting livestock. Areas along the lake shore have recreational potential.

Government sponsored projects offer seasonal short-term employment. Seismic or drilling work provides additional occasional employment opportunities. A few individuals rely on trapping for employment.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The Settlement is accessible from secondary Highway #897. There are approximately 52 kms. of gravelled and dirt roads in the Settlement.

RAILWAY: The nearest railway depot is the Canadian National Railway located 55 kms. west of Elk Point.

AIRPORT The closest airstrip is located 55 kms. north of Elk Point.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is in Elk Point and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: There is a water treatment plant on the Settlement and plans are underway for residential hook-ups. Sewage disposal is through septic tanks. Electricity is provided by Alberta Power. Propane, heating fuel and wood are used for home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a baseball diamond, rodeo grounds, a community hall, the school gymnasium and a beach area on Frog Lake.

Education

SCHOOLS: The J. F. Dion School, under the administration of Northlands School Division, offers kindergarten to grade seven. Students in pre-secondary and secondary grades are bussed to schools in Heinsburg.

Services

HEALTH: The Settlement has a visiting public health nurse, a community health aid and an alcohol addictions counsellor.

FIRE PROTECTION: The nearest fire department is located in Elk Point.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by an R.C.M.P. Detachment from Elk Point.

Commercial Activity

There is a store, post office and video rental shop housed in one unit on the Settlement. There is also a privately-owned second-hand shop.

Communications

Television broadcast reception is from Lloydminster and Edmonton. Radio reception is from Lloydminster, St. Paul, Edmonton, and Camrose. Party-line telephone service is provided by Alberta Government Telephones. Newspapers available in the community are from Lloydminster, Elk Point, the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta and a local newsletter.

Government

LOCAL: The Settlement is administered by a Chairman and four Councillors.

The Fishing Lake Metis Settlement is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlement Association.

Address: FISHING LAKE METIS SETTLEMENT
General Delivery,
Sputinow, Alberta
T0A 3G0

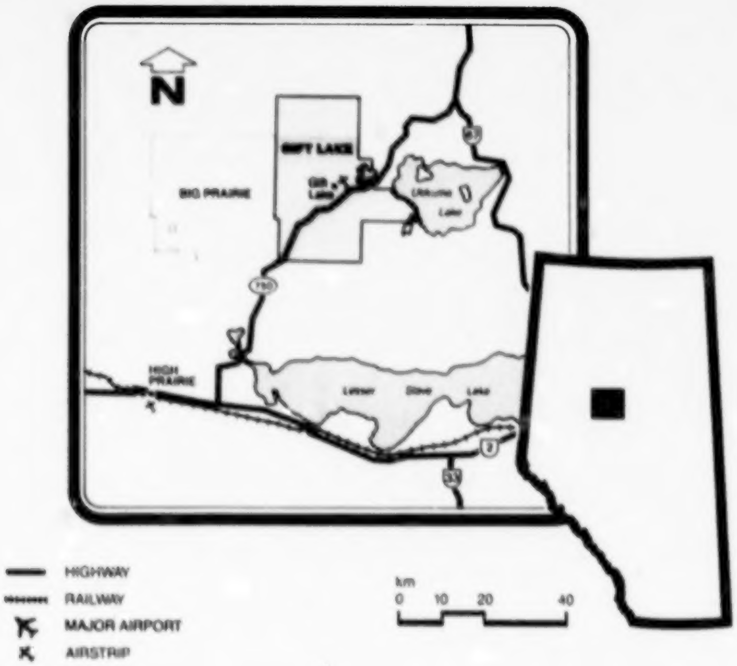
PROVINCIAL: Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC).

FEDERAL: There is a post office situated on the Settlement.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Gift Lake



Location

The Gift Lake Metis Settlement is located 40 kms. northeast of High Prairie in Improvement District #17. Gift Lake forms the eastern boundary. The Settlement encompasses 83,951 hectares (207,360 acres).

History

Recommendations from the Ewing Commission and the Metis Betterment Act resulted in the Gift Lake Metis Settlement being established in 1938.

The Metis Betterment Act, legislation unique to the Province of Alberta, recommended that land be allocated for Metis people to live on.

The Gift Lake Settlement takes its name from the nearby lake.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 482 people.

Economic Base

The economy of the Settlement is derived from farming, forestry, commercial fishing and gas and oil development.

Some income is derived from farming activities. Approximately 52% of the Settlement lands could produce oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops.

Mixed forest cover has enabled commercial forestry to develop as an important industry. Reforestation programs provide some seasonal employment.

Some commercial fishing is done in nearby Gift Lake, Utikuma Lake and Long Lake. Traditional hunting and trapping activities are done mainly for domestic use.

Oil and gas exploration on the Settlement has increased, providing temporary employment in seismic work and road construction.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #2 and secondary road #750 lead to the Settlement. There are approximately 90 kms. of internal all-weather gravel road. Recently constructed roads lead to new farming and residential areas which are being developed.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in High Prairie, 40 kms. southwest of the Settlement. It is operated by the Canadian National Railway.

AIRPORT: Gift Lake has a grass landing strip for light aircraft.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in High Prairie. Freight service is provided daily by a truck.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: Water is obtained from the lake, filtered, chlorinated and stored in a reservoir. Electricity is available from Alberta Power. The main sources of home heating are propane and wood. Sewage disposal is by septic tanks.

RECREATION: Facilities include a community hall, a baseball diamond, creative playground, school gymnasium, outdoor skating rink, campsite and rodeo grounds.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school on the Settlement which offers kindergarten to grade nine. It is under the administration of the Northlands School Division. A Community Vocational Centre offers up-grading courses. High school students attend schools in High Prairie.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse visits once a week. Additional medical services are available in High Prairie.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by the High Prairie R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

There are three stores, a confectionary, and a gas station located on the Settlement. Additional services are available in High Prairie.

Communications

Telephone service is supplied by Alberta Government Telephones. Television broadcast reception is from CBC and CTV. Radio stations CKYL-Peace River, CFGP-Grande Prairie and various Edmonton stations are also received. A Settlement newsletter is circulated regularly and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper provides additional newspaper services.

Government

LOCAL: The Settlement is administered by a five member Settlement Advisory Council which is comprised of a Chairman and four Councillors.

The Gift Lake Metis Settlement is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlement Association.

Address: THE GIFT LAKE METIS SETTLEMENT
General Delivery
Gift Lake, Alberta
T0G 1B0

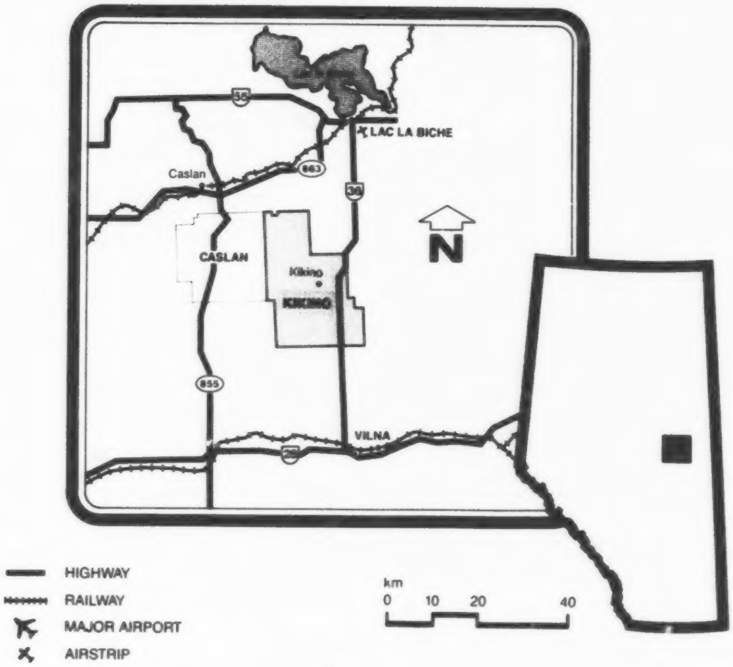
Other Organizations

Local #144 of the Metis Association of Alberta is also present.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS

Kikino



Location

The Kikino Metis Settlement is located approximately 40 kms. south of Lac La Biche adjacent to the Caslan Metis Settlement. It is situated in Improvement District #18 and covers 44,825 hectares (110,720 acres). It is divided north and south by Highway #36.

History

Following the enactment of the Metis Population Betterment Act in 1938, lands were allocated for the Metis people. Kikino was one of these Settlements.

It was originally known as Goodfish Lake Colony #7. The residents chose the name Kikino, which means "our home" in 1941.

Many of the residents live on quarter sections throughout the Settlement while others live on acreages in the village site.

Population

The current population of Kikino is 815 people.

Economic Base

The economic base of the Settlement is geared towards agriculture and ranching. Presently, land clearing and breaking is an important activity as the residents forsee the need for improved agricultural and pasture land production.

The Settlement is involved with the Federation of Metis Settlements which administers the Settlement Sooniyaw Corporation. The Corporation is presently involved in a carpentry training program.

Some Settlement members are involved in raising cattle. The Kikino Wildlife Ranching Association has become involved in raising buffalo.

Other employment is found in the forest industry with cutting and slashing crews.

Hunting and trapping are used as a source of supplementary income.

Transportation Services

ROADS: The main access to the Settlement is from Highway #36. The internal roads are gravel and dirt all-weather roads.

RAILWAY: The nearest train depots, operated by the Canadian National Railway, are located in Vilna and Lac La Biche.

BUS SERVICE: The nearest bus depot is located in Lac La Biche and is operated by Greyhound Bus Lines.

AIRPORT: The nearest paved and lighted airstrip is located in Lac La Biche.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: A water and sewer distribution site is expected to be completed by the fall of 1985. Electricity is supplied by Trans Alta Utilities. Homes are heated by propane, oil and wood.

RECREATION: Facilities on the Settlement include an outdoor skating rink, three baseball diamonds, a youth development centre and a community hall.

Education

SCHOOLS: All students are bussed to schools in Lac La Biche.

Services

HEALTH: The Settlement has a resident community health nurse. A doctor visits once a week.

FIRE PROTECTION: There is a fire hall, fire truck and a volunteer fire brigade located on the Settlement.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by the Lac La Biche R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Kikino has a general store, a gas station, two privately-owned bussing services and a rodeo company. The Settlement also owns a construction company.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Television broadcast reception are from CBC, CFRN and CBXT. Radio reception is from St. Paul, Edmonton and Camrose. The community has a monthly newsletter and receives the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta newspaper.

Government

LOCAL: The Settlement is administered by an elected five member Settlement Council.

It is also a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements Association.

Address: KIKINO METIS SETTLEMENT
ASSOCIATION
General Delivery,
Kikino, Alberta
T0A 2B0

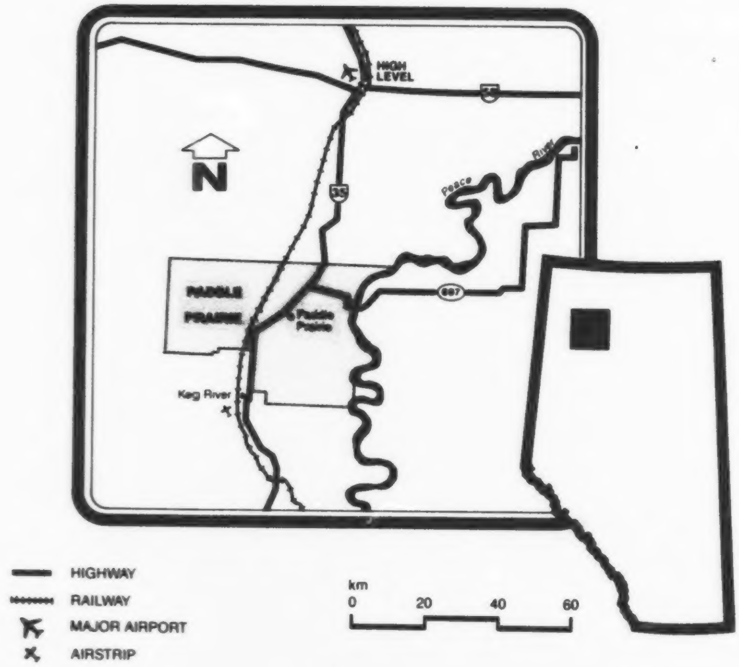
FEDERAL: There is a post office in the community of Kikino.

Other Organizations

Kikino Northern Lites (Dance group).

Comments

Paddle Prairie



Location

Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement is located 77 kms. south of High Level and 216 kms. north of the Town of Peace River. Paddle Prairie encompasses 163,168 hectares (403,027 acres).

History

In 1938, as a result of recommendations by the Ewing Commission and the subsequent Metis Population Betterment Act, land was allocated for the Metis people. This legislation is unique to the province of Alberta. Paddle Prairie, also known as the Keg River Metis Colony, was established in 1939.

Population

A 1984 census indicated 644 people living in the Settlement.

Economic Base

Although hunting, trapping, farming and logging have traditionally been the mainstay of the Settlement's economy, recent oil and gas exploration has become an important economic consideration. To date, 106 natural gas wells have been drilled on the Settlement. Petro-Canada and Chieftain Development operate two gas plants and employ ten people. Nova — an Alberta Corporation employs four members.

Presently, about 17 families are involved in mixed farming ventures. A recently constructed road will allow better access and enhance future agricultural development. Crops such as oats, barley, canola and perennial forage crops have greater agricultural potential.

Forestry and peat-moss harvesting are of potential economic benefit to the Settlement. Seasonal employment is provided by fire-fighting, trapping, tradeswork and reforestation projects.

Transportation Services

ROADS: Primary Highway #35, the main access road, runs in a north/south direction through the Settlement. There are about 64 kms. of internal gravel road. Recently, about 14 kms. of new gravel road was constructed leading to Armstrong Flatts, which has valuable agricultural potential.

RAILWAY: The nearest depot is located in High Level.

AIRPORT: Keg River, 30 kms. south, has a grass landing strip for light aircraft. The nearest major commercial airport is located in High Level.

BUS SERVICE: Greyhound Bus Lines provides flag-stop bus service in a north/south direction.

Physical Infrastructure

UTILITIES: There is a water treatment plant and a sewage system on the Settlement. Alberta Power supplies electrical services. Wood and propane are the main sources of home heating.

RECREATION: Facilities include a community hall, a recreation centre, an outdoor skating rink, two baseball diamonds and rodeo grounds. There are also camping/picnic sites along the Chinchaga River.

Education

SCHOOLS: There is one school on the Settlement, offering grades one to nine, which is under the administration of the Northland School Division. Secondary students are boarded out of the community. Up-grading and technical courses are offered through the Fairview College.

Services

HEALTH: A public health nurse works from an office located in the Settlement and a doctor visits twice a month. Additional medical services are available in High Level.

POLICE: The Settlement is served by the High Level R.C.M.P. Detachment.

Commercial Activity

Retail services are available in the Town of High Level.

Communications

Alberta Government Telephones provides telephone service. Radio CKYL-Peace River and CBC-TV are transmitted to this area. The High Level Echo, Northern Journal and the Aboriginal Multi Media Society of Alberta provide newspaper service.

Government

LOCAL: The Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement is administered by a locally-elected five member Council.

Paddle Prairie Metis Settlement is a member of the Alberta Federation of Metis Settlements Association.

Address: PADDLE PRAIRIE METIS SETTLEMENT
Paddle Prairie, Alberta
T0H 2W0

Other Organizations

Metis Association of Alberta Local #141 is present in the community.

Comments

Alberta
NATIVE AFFAIRS